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While in the zenith of his power, the leader of a mighty and for a time successful national movement in Hungary, stories reached us of the oratorical genius of Kossuth—of his power over the masses—of his faculty for inspiring personal attachments—which to our colder temperaments raised a suspicion that they must be overcoloured. Common fame represented him as a sort of magician who by a word could persuade men to exchange their silver coin for bits of paper containing no better security than his own promise to pay when he should be able—who by his conjuration could raise up army after army of Magyars and launch them against the Imperial house of Hapsburg. In England we had few means of conceiving the idea of such a man. In our own great revolution oratory played but an inferior part. The swords of Cromwell, Blake, and Fairfax, the passions and convictions of the people, were the executive and motive powers. France had its Mirabeau and its Robespierre; but the most stirring words of those popular tribunes did not—like the dragon teeth of Greek fable and the rumoured spells of Kossuth—spring up armed men. Doubts occurred to many if this imputed gift were not one of those exaggerations common to the East. The whole character of the man, as it was drawn for us by such Magyars, Poles, and English as had seen or learned about him in his own country, was touched with what seemed to persons looking on soberly from a distance the contrasted lights and shades of an artistic fancy. Personal beauty, modesty of deportment, refined and gentle manners, romantic generosity, a presence to command respect and inspire devotion, varied knowledge of the world, the highest order of physical and moral courage, and a mind equal to emergencies, ready to act at any moment, and of almost infinite resources,—such were the materials of that sketch of Kossuth which was commonly given by those who shared his general views and spoke of him on personal knowledge. To meet the expectations so raised would be a severe trial to any man:—treble so when their object was a foreigner, an exile, without wealth, aristocratic connexions, power, or the prestige of victory. Many, therefore, who had been stirred by the Hungarian struggle, and whose hearts had warmed towards the Hungarian hero, believed that the moment he set his foot on English ground the spell of his great name would be broken.

This man has now been among us for a

month. He has been seen by millions and heard by thousands. He has addressed influential meetings in Southampton, Winchester, London, Manchester, and Birmingham. He has stood the test of criticism in many shapes:—and from the moment of his landing at Southampton to his embarkation at Cowes for the United States his stay has been one prolonged representation. Has his presence in England vulgarized the romantic image already familiar to the public through the portraiture of his friends? His reception by the people—the enthusiasm created by his speeches, an enthusiasm spreading and deepening to the end of his sojourn—is the answer; and of these speeches we hope to have yet a more perfect record than either of those which now lie before us. Into the discussion of any of those questions which form the subject-matter of these speeches the readers of the *Athenæum* well know that it is beyond our mission to enter:—but, without being prepared to indorse the assertion of Mr. Walter Savage Landor, that “since the days of Demosthenes no equal or similar eloquence has ever been heard on earth,” we feel that this great Hungarian monologue has been sufficiently remarkable to bring the actor legitimately before us in the literary point of view.

Of the minor merits of this remarkable man, his command of the English language is perhaps that which creates the largest amount of wonder. With the exception of an occasional want of idiom, the use of a few words in an obsolete sense, and a habit of sometimes carrying (German fashion) the infinitive verb to the end of a sentence,—there is little to distinguish M. Kossuth's English from that of our great masters of eloquence. Select, yet copious and picturesque it is always. The combinations—we speak of his words as distinct from the thoughts that lie in them—are often very happy. We can even go so far as to say that he has enriched and utilized our language:—the first by using unusual words with extreme felicity,—the latter by proving to the world how well the pregnant and flexible tongue of Shakspeare adapts itself to the expression of a genius and a race so remote from the Saxon as the Magyar. Most of our readers know the story told by Kossuth himself of his first introduction to our language and literature. The story runs that when, fourteen years ago, he was thrown into an Austrian dungeon for daring to publish the debates in the Hungarian Parliament, he was kept for some time in solitary confinement without books or papers,—but that afterwards, in consequence of the representations of the Diet, his gaolers allowed him to have a few books on condition of his not asking for works on politics. He chose a copy of Shakspeare and an English dictionary. Out of the great dramatist he learned our speech, our modes of thinking, our national sentiments. Certain it is, that his extraordinary mastery over our tongue has proved power to the Exile and to his cause. It was a sad blunder of the Austrian police to give him Shakspeare for a prison companion!—To this circumstance, however, we owe it that we are now able to understand, in a vague and reflex way perhaps, but still with no little vividness and life, what must have been the charm and power of the great Magyar's eloquence when it was appealing in a national cause, in its native idiom, and under circumstances of great excitement, to minds kindled at the same source and hearts beating with the same blood as his own.—This interesting story, too, gives peculiar appropriateness to a proposition that has emanated from Mr. Douglas Jerrold, looking on the Magyar chief in his character of a literary man,

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We have heard M. Kossuth, and we have carefully read the reports of his speeches. His style is new and personal. Compared with the men whose speeches have been received as the best specimens of oratory in recent times—such as Brougham, Lacordaire, Blum, Thiers, Gavazzi, and O'Connell—Kossuth is calm and grave. He has no sophisms, no verbal dexterities. All is with him clear, sequent, logical. He never mouths his passion—never wrings his hands or stamps his feet—never gesticulates his violence, or resorts to the common tricks of the orator to impress his audience with an idea of his earnestness. As a rhetorical weapon he uses scorn very rarely, and we have not read a sneering sentence from his lips. He neither mocks his enemy like Gavazzi, nor insults him like O'Connell. His appeal is made directly to the intellect of his hearer. He seems more anxious to convince than to excite. Warmth of fancy and of feeling he undoubtedly possesses,—and his passion sometimes breaks into sudden explosion. But in these qualities he has had many equals—Chatham, Mirabeau, Patrick Henry, and others of all nations. What seems more particularly Kossuthian—that is, personal—in his eloquence is, its moral undertone. Master of his subject, he speaks to other nations with the energy, but also with much of the gravity, of history. He flatters no prejudice—appeals to no passion—yet, his discourse adapts itself with singular art to its immediate audience. Perhaps next to his excellent English, the thing which is most curious about “M. Kossuth in England” is, the extraordinary genius which he has for saying the right thing in the right place. Of the speeches now reported, not one could change its locality without manifest disadvantage. The City speech was precisely adapted to the City,—the Manchester speech would not have done at Winchester,—nor that delivered at Southampton at Copenhagen Fields. Not that the views and opinions are in any respect contradictory:—but in each there is a special tone, a particular line of argument, exactly calculated to suit the audience before him. If M. Kossuth had lived in England all his days we do not see how he could have displayed a nicer knowledge of our local peculiarities, pursuits, and character than he now does.

As samples of oratorical art these remarkable speeches constitute a study. How frank and simple—how shaped to disarm hostility and inspire confidence—were the first few words uttered by the Exile in England!—

“I beg you will excuse my bad English. Seven weeks back I was a prisoner in Kutayah, in Asia Minor. Now I am a free man. I am a free man because glorious England chose it. That England chose it which the genius of mankind selected for the resting monument of its greatness, and the spirit of freedom for his happy home. Cheered by your sympathy, which is the anchor of hope to oppressed humanity, with the view of your freedom, your greatness, and your happiness, and with the consciousness of my unhappy land in my breast, you must excuse me for the emotion I feel,—the natural consequence of so striking a change and so different circumstances. So, excuse me for not being able to thank you so warmly as I feel for the generous reception in which you honour in my undeserving person the cause of my country. I only hope God Almighty may for ever bless you and your glorious land. Let me hope you will be willing to throw a

ray of hope and consolation on my native land by this your generous reception. May England be ever great, glorious, and free; but let me hope, by the blessing of Almighty God, and by our own steady perseverance, and by your own generous aid, that England, though she may ever remain the most glorious spot on earth, will not remain for ever the only one where freedom dwells."

These lines contain the germs of nearly all that M. Kossuth afterwards developed in his several speeches.—What, again, could be happier than his illustration of the common phrase "social order" given at the Guildhall? He said:—

"A principle which I meet here in this place is a principle of social order. Many people when they hear this word 'social order' get almost nervous and excited. There are many that misuse this sacred word as a blasphemy. They call social order absolutism; they call social order when humanity is put into a prison; they call social order the silence of the grave. This 30th of October has presented to the world a spectacle which, once seen, I proudly proclaim that no Czars and Emperors of Austria have the right or can have the pretension to speak more of social order. Here is social order in London; and by whom watched? I had my thousands and thousands of the people rushing forward, not with the effusion of blood, but with the warm enthusiasm of noble hearts, to cheer liberty and the principle of freedom in my poor humble self. And what is the safeguard of social order in this meeting of the people? I asked the attention of Lord Dudley Stuart: 'let us look how many policemen are present. I have seen four.' Such a scene, my Lord, for the Czars and Emperors, and all men ambitious, who may be called Presidents, for they are all the same thing, no matter how called! They would have had their 20,000 bayonets, and I do not know how many open and secret spies; they would have safeguarded by arms and cannon;—what? Social order? No. Against whom? Against foes and enemies of social order? No; against their own people."

How well the orator chose his moment at Manchester to dispose of the assertion that were it not for himself and two or three other persons the European world would be peaceable and content with its present condition! He had been speaking of the imminency of the next great struggle between liberty and brute force—between the citizen and the soldier,—when he suddenly turned the flank of his opponents as follows.—

"The dragon of oppression draws near, but the St. George of liberty is ready to wrestle with him. How can I state that this struggle is so near? Why, I state it because it is. Every man knows it; every man feels it; every man sees it. A philosopher was once questioned how he could prove the existence of God? 'Why,' answered he, 'by opening my eyes.' God is seen everywhere. In the growth of the grass, and in the movements of the stars; in the warbling of the lark and in the thunder of the heavens. Even so I prove that the decisive struggle of mankind's destinies draws near: I appeal to the sight of your eyes, to the pulsations of your hearts, and to the judgment of your minds. You know it, you see it, you feel it, that the judgment is drawing near. How blind are those men who have the affectation to believe, or at least to assert, that it is only certain men who push the revolution on the continent of Europe, which, but for their revolutionary plots, would be quiet and content. Content! With what? With oppression and servitude? France content with its constitution turned into a pasquinade! Germany content at being but a flock of sheep pent up to be shorn by some thirty petty tyrants! Switzerland content with the threatening ambition of encroaching despots! Italy content with the King of Naples, or with the priestly Government of Rome,—the worst of human invention! Austria, Bohemia, Croatia, Dalmatia, content with having been driven to butchery after having been deceived, oppressed, and laughed at as fools! Poland content with being murdered! Hungary, my poor Hungary, content with being more than murdered—buried alive.

Because it is alive! * * Russia content with slavery! Vienna, Flensburg, Pesth, Lombardy, Milan, Venice, content with having been bombarded, burnt, sacked, and their population butchered! And half of Europe content with the scaffold, the hangman, the prison; with having no political rights at all, but having to pay innumerable millions for the high, beneficial purpose of being kept in serfdom? That is the condition of the continent of Europe,—and is it not ridiculous to see and to hear men prate about individuals disturbing the contented tranquillity of Europe?"

Nor was the question supposed by M. Kossuth to be now at issue on the European continent less clearly and strikingly placed before the same audience. The decision of this question he had told them is of interest for every people, as it may affect the fate of mankind for generations to come:—and the warning with which the passage closes had a solemn and almost Cassandrian dignity of tone.—

"No country," he said, "no nation, however proud its position, none within the boundaries of the Christian family and of European civilization, can avoid a share of the consequences of this comprehensive question, which will be the proximate fate of humanity. I scarcely need to say that this comprehensive question is whether Europe should be ruled by the principle of freedom or by the principle of despotism. To bring more home in a practical way to your generous hearts that idea of freedom, the question is whether Europe shall be ruled by the principle of centralization or by the principle of self-government. Because self-government is freedom, and centralization is absolutism. What! shall freedom die away for centuries, and mankind become nothing more than a blind instrument for the ambition of a few; or shall the brand of servitude be wiped away from the brow of humanity? Woe, a thousandfold woe, to every nation which, confident in its proud position of to-day, shall carelessly regard the all-comprehensive struggle for these great principles. It is the mythical struggle between heaven and hell. To be blessed or to be damned is the lot of all; there is no transition between heaven and hell. Woe, a thousandfold woe, to every nation which will not embrace within its sorrows and its cares the future, but only the passing moment of the present time. As the sun looms through the mist before it rises, so the future is seen in the events of the present day."

Of all the speeches made by M. Kossuth in England, that delivered at Birmingham was the most characteristic and impressive. In the main calm and logical, full of facts, and varied with figures,—it nevertheless contains some of the finest pathos and most eloquent passion in our language. The best harangues of Sheridan look cold by the side of the great Magyar's thrilling words. The exordium is perhaps not unworthy to rank with that of any of the masterpieces of eloquence—with the oration against Æschines and the First against Catiline. Thus dashed the great Hungarian, like a charge of his country's magnificent horse, at the Austrians.—

"Three years ago, yonder house of Austria— which had chiefly me to thank for not having been swept away by the revolution of Vienna in March, 1848—having in return answered by the most foul, most sacrilegious conspiracy against the chartered rights, freedom, and national existence of my native land,—it became my share, being then member of the ministry, with undisguised truth to lay before the Parliament of Hungary the immense danger of our bleeding father-land. Having made the sketch, which, however dreadful, could be but a faint shadow of the horrible reality, I proceeded to explain the alternative which our terrible destiny left to us, after the failure of all our attempts to avert the evil,—to present the neck of the realm to the deadly stroke aimed at its very life, or to bear up against the horrors of fate, and manfully to fight the battle of legitimate defence. Scarcely had I spoken the words,—scarcely had I added that the defence would require 200,000 men and 80,000,000 of florins, when the Spirit of Freedom moved through the Hall,

and nearly 400 representatives rose as one man, and lifting their right arms towards God, solemnly said, 'We grant it,—freedom or death!' Thus they spoke, and there they stood, in a calm and silent majesty, awaiting what further word might fall from my lips. And for myself: it was my duty to speak, but the grandeur of the moment, and the rushing waves of sentiment benumbed my tongue. A burning tear fell from my eyes, a sigh of adoration to the Almighty Lord fluttered on my lips; and, bowing low before the majority of my people,—as I bow now before you, gentlemen,—I left the tribunal silently, speechless, mute."

Here the orator paused for a moment,—and then added:—

"Pardon me my emotion,—the shadows of our martyrs pass before my eyes; I hear the millions of my native land once more shouting 'liberty or death!'"

We remember reading an account of the scene in the Hungarian Parliament to which this impressive reference is made. Kossuth's words were few,—but they acted like inspiration on the Magyar deputies. He said, amidst profound silence:—"I enter the tribune to appeal to you for saving your fatherland. I feel the awful importance of the moment; I feel as if God had placed the trumpet in my hand, to rouse the nation from her dream, and to awaken her to a new and eternal life if she yet possess vital substance, or to condemn her to everlasting death if she is cowardly." The Assembly did not even await the conclusion, but rose to a man, and unanimously adopted the motion by the exclamation "Megadjuk!" (granted!) Kossuth answered:—"That it was which I would beg of you, deputies of my country! but you anticipated me, and I deeply bow to the greatness of this nation."

Powerful and dramatic as this must be confessed to be, it is surpassed by some other passages in the orator's Birmingham address. What, for instance, in the literature of eloquence, is finer than the allusion to his own representative character?—

"You remember [he said] Paulus Æmilius, whose triumph by a whim of fate was placed between the tombs of his two sons. You remember his quite Roman words—'*Cladem domus meae vestra felicitas consolatur.*' Were there anything in the world able to console a Magyar for the misfortunes of his fatherland, here is the place where I would repeat the words of yonder Roman son! But alas, still here where I am, and so surrounded as I am, still I feel myself a homeless exile,—and all that I see carries back my memory to my down-trodden land. Sorrow takes deeper root in human breasts than joys; one must be an exile, and the home of the poor exile must be suffering as mine is, that the heart of man can feel the boundless intensity of the love of home. Strange it may appear to you, the roots of my life are not within myself, my individuality is absorbed in this thought, 'Freedom and Fatherland!' What is the key of that boundless faith and trust my people bear to me, their plain unpretending brother,—a faith and confidence seldom to be met in like manner in his way? What is the key of it,—that this faith, this confidence, stands still fast, neither troubled by the deluge of calumnies, nor broken by adversities? It is that my people took, and take still, for the incarnated personification of their wishes, their sentiments, their affections, and their hopes. Is it not then quite natural that the woes of my people also should be embodied in myself? I have the concentrated woes of millions of Magyars in my breast. And allow me, gentlemen, a sort of national self-esteem in that respect. * * To me, a Hungarian, that sort of sentiment may not be becoming which befits a British man, who, whatever be his personal merits, puts—and with right—his greatest pride in the idea to be a citizen of Great Britain; still, allow me to prostrate myself in spirit, before the memory of my suffering people; allow me to bear witness before you, that the people of Magyars can take, with noble self-esteem, a place in the great

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family of nations; allow me, even in view of your greatness, to proclaim that I feel proud to be a Magyar. While, during our holy struggle, we were secluded from the world, our enemies, wanting to cover their crimes by lies, told you the tale that we are in Hungary but an insignificant party, and this are party fancied by myself. Well, I feel proud at my country's strength. They stirred up by foul delusions to the fury of civil war our Croat, Wallach, Serb, and Slovach brethren against us. It did not suffice. The house of Austria poured all his forces upon us; still it would not do. We beat them down! The proud dynasty had to stoop at the foot of the Czar. He thrust his legions upon us. * * Afterwards, the scorned party turned out to be a nation, and a valiant one; but still they said it is I who inspired it. Perhaps there might be some glory in inspiring such a nation, and to such a degree. But I cannot accept the praise. No; it is not I who inspired the Hungarian people,—it was the Hungarian people who inspired me. Whatever I thought, and still think,—whatever I felt, and still feel,—it is but a feeble pulsation of that heart which in the breast of my people beats. The glory of battles is ascribed to the leaders, in history—their are the laurels of immortality. And yet on meeting the danger, they knew that, alive or dead, their name will upon the lips of the people for ever live. How different, how purer, is the light spread on the image of thousands of the people's sons, who, knowing that where they fall they will lie unknown, their names unhonoured and unsung, but who, nevertheless, animated by the love of freedom and fatherland, went on calmly, singing national anthems, against the batteries whose cross-fire vomited death and destruction on them, and took them without firing a shot—they who fell, falling with the shout, 'hurrah for Hungary!' And so they died by thousands, the unnamed demigods."

Not less lofty in tone and poetical in thought is the following paragraph.—

"Still they say it is I who have inspired them. No; a thousand times, no! It is they who have inspired me. The moment of death, gentlemen, is a dreary one. Even the features of Cato partook of the impression of this dreariness. A shadow passed over the brow of Socrates on drinking the hemlock cup. With us, those who beheld the nameless victims of the love of country, lying on the death field beneath Buda's walls, met but the expression of a smile on the frozen lips of the dead, and the dying answered those who would console, but by the words, 'Never mind; Buda is ours. Hurrah for the fatherland!' so they spoke and died. He who witnessed such scenes, not as an exception, but as a constant rule,—he who saw the adolescent weep when told he was yet too young to die for his land; he who saw the sacrifices of spontaneity; he who heard what a fury spread over the people on hearing of the catastrophe; he who marked his behaviour towards the victors, after all was lost; he who knows what sort of curse is mixed in the prayers of the Magyar, and knows what sort of sentiment is burning alike in the breast of the old and of the young, of the strong man and of the tender wife,—and ever will be burning on, till the hour of national resurrection strikes,—he who is aware of all this will surely bow before this people with respect, and will acknowledge, with me, that such a people wants not to be inspired, but that it is an everlasting source of inspiration itself. This is the people of Hungary!"

Of the two collections of M. Kossuth's speeches whose titles are placed at the head of this article we need not say much,—since we cannot say anything in their favour. Got up in haste to meet a sudden demand, they are almost of necessity extremely imperfect. Some of the earlier speeches are best reported by Mr. Gilpin:—but the last and greatest, the address at Birmingham, is very badly given in his copy. Messrs. Bradbury & Evans render an excellent report of the Birmingham speech,—and it is from their edition that we have taken our illustrative extracts:—but their other reports are often meagre and unsatisfactory.

Beatson's Political Index Modernised: [being] the Book of Dignities; containing Rolls of the Official Personages of the British Empire, Civil, Ecclesiastical, Judicial, Military, Naval and Municipal, from the Earliest Period, &c.
By Joseph Haydn. Longman & Co.

BEATSON'S Political Index has obtained more than its full share of reputation. It is neither full nor accurate; but it has long been the only book attempting to supply a want commonly felt by historical students. Beatson was a bookseller's hack of more industry than was ordinarily met with at that time in authors of his condition:—but he draws from common, and not very trustworthy, sources of information. His book therefore by no means supplies that kind of knowledge on which the student may rely. His dates must be looked on as only approximations to truth,—as means to assist the student in arriving at the precise facts which he is anxious to obtain. To say that such or such is the date in 'Beatson' would go but a little way with accurate inquirers. No historical student with any love for precision would find a correction of any moment on a date set down by Beatson. The student would hesitate before he said that either Sir William Dugdale or Sir Harris Nicolas was in the wrong,—but he would not in any case correct either by a reference to the 'Political Index.'

We wish we could say that Mr. Haydn was a Sir William Dugdale or a Sir Harris Nicolas:—but he is only a better kind of Beatson. There are merit and industry in his book. He has gone at times to records, to MSS., and to official sources of information,—or rather he has allowed others to go for him. He has had assistance from Mr. Duffus Hardy, from Mr. Thomas, and from Mr. Black,—all antiquaries of name connected with our Record Offices; but he has not seemingly availed himself of the privileges granted to literary men by the present Master of the Rolls—if indeed that privilege has yet taken any more active form than that of a privilege on paper—and blackened his own fingers, free of expense, with parchments and vellums, entries and letters patent. No really good Political Index can be made without such repeated blackenings of the fingers; and Mr. Haydn's book is not really a good book, but only a better kind of 'Beatson,' because he has not had recourse to rolls and enrolment books,—the only true authorities for the information which he professes to furnish.

It has puzzled us to discover what restricted limitation Mr. Haydn assigns to a 'Dictionary of Dignities.' He inserts Captains of the Yeomen of the Guard,—and omits the Lieutenants and Constables of the Tower. He gives lists of Serjeants-at-Law and Recorders of London,—but not a list of Cromwell's Peers. He supplies a lengthy catalogue of Majors-General,—but omits all reference to the Lords Wardens of the Marches and to Governors of Windsor Castle and of the Isle of Wight. We should not particularly care to see a chronological list of Sewers in Ordinary or Yeomen of the Mouth,—but we should like to have had a list of Poets Laureate, because Selden dwells learnedly on the dignity in his 'Titles of Honor.' We would have lists of Royal Historiographers—of Kings' Painters—of Surveyors of Works under the Crown—of Chief Engravers to the Crown—of Masters of the Revels—of Lords Justices who ruled over England during the visits of George the First and George the Second to their much-loved Hanover. We would have had lists of Keepers of the Back Stairs and of the Privy Purse, including, as they would, Will Chiffinch and Bap May. We would have had a catalogue of

Clerks of the Acts, including, as it would, the name of Mr. Pepys. We would insert in a 'Dictionary of Dignities' or in a new 'Titles of Honor' Presidents of the Royal Society—Presidents of the Royal Academy—Governors of the Bank—Chairmen of the East India Company—Masters of the Trinity House,—every dignity, indeed, likely to be of service to the historical student:—particularly specifying in all cases whether the dates given are those of election or nomination or of letters patent,—points on which Mr. Haydn is provokingly loose. Care should be taken to separate offices and officers from after offices of a somewhat similar character:—for Mr. Haydn hashes together the Paymasters of the Forces and the Paymasters General. The demand on the part of the public for such a work, it may be said, would not repay either the compiler or the publisher:—but of this we have doubts. We live in days when accurate knowledge of any useful description is more largely sought after than at any other time. Books of reference meet with a steady demand. Speaking in the language of the trade,—there is no waste in a well done dictionary of any kind.

When Mr. Haydn reprints his 'Beatson's Political Index Modernised' he will improve his work very much if he omits the numerous foot-notes which he has inserted,—taken, as they are, too commonly from writers of very little authority. Brief and accurately compiled biographical notices would add materially to the value of a 'Dictionary of Dignities,'—while "characters," however brief, if from authorities of little value, detract from it, and add, as very thick paper also here does, to the bulk and to the price of the book.

The Pappenheimers: A Novel. Edited by Capt. Ashton. 3 vols. Bentley.

It is hazardous little to assert that this military romance must be a translation from the German. Most fitly has its English version been placed under military protection and editorship. A long autumn day once upon a time spent in the midst of a Prussian review did not send us home at night more thoroughly impressed, not to say confused, by the several explosions of drum, trumpet, and petronel than the perusal of this novel has done,—so crowded is it with sacks, battles, marches and counter-marches. The preponderance of these makes it almost too monotonous a book to please any public save that of "the service." Yet to satisfy military readers it may not prove sufficiently exact and practical. A battle is a difficult thing to paint, to describe, to dramatize. Still, we have such examples as the Pisa cartoon—the encounter at Loudon Hill in 'Old Mortality'—the heart-wringing interview betwixt *Thekla* and the soldier in 'Wallenstein'—to show us what picturesque, simple, and forcible works of Art may be drawn from the histories of war and of warriors by painter, novelist, and dramatist of genius.—Here, the writer has taken up a German history of well-known campaigns, and gone in due form and order from the destruction of Magdeburg to the battle of Leipzig and from the battle of Leipzig to the battle of Lützen. He shows small power over character,—since both his Tilly and his Pappenheim more closely resemble patterns for embroidery than portraits in oil, bronze or marble; and, possibly aware of his limited competence, he has sought to busy himself in the camp, the powder-magazine, and the drilling ground. Some personages, however, there must be to work the machinery of his romance; and these are, the desolate Anna in love with Pappenheim, the holy Hedwig, her sister, and the Hauptmann La Croix, who is renegade, ravisher, slanderer, coward, and blasphemer, all in one,—

yet, somehow, so weak a villain that we cannot muster any comfortable amount of fear let him come or go ever so portentously.—One of the best scenes in the novel is that in which, being desirous of entering into a compact with the Evil One, the Hauptmann aforesaid makes a Harz pilgrimage, according to the direction of an old soldier, through whose intervention the precious neophyte imagines that the infernal treaty had been already opened.—

"On the road La Croix sought to inform himself about all things, and put several questions to his guide, who, however, could answer but few; and he could learn only thus much, that the hunting Lodge, situated at the foot of the Brocken, and called Scharfstein, was universally shunned, and nobody liked having anything to do with the old man and his beasts, and still less with the old witch of a servant; the saying also went that the place was haunted, especially on Walpurgis Night. While engaged in this discourse they plunged deeper into the forest; the storm howled fearfully, and shook the old pine-trees till they struck crackling against each other; the snow fell in thick flakes; the wild boar rushed past them with a startled grunt; and the heathcock, driven from tree to tree by the tempest, rustled through the air on his broad wings. All nature seemed astir. As they attained the open place mentioned by the old reiter, they saw in the distance a welcome sight, the smoke of a chimney curling amid the snow-storm, through the tops of the fir-trees. 'There is where he lives,' said the coal-burner, 'and now give me my guerdon, and let me go, for I'll follow ye no further.' Contrary to his usual habit, La Croix paid the lad, probably the first time long since that he had given money, instead of taking it; and when the man had left him he urged his horse forward, the old domestic behind him muttering, 'we shall ride into the devil's jaws I suppose at last.' A singular feeling took possession of him, but he rode on cheerfully, for it would seem that La Croix was more afraid of mankind than of Satan. So they trotted on through storm and wind until they beheld the Hunting Lodge before them; it was a fine looking building, and as it stood out from among the fir-covered rocks, might well be called kindly looking, and certainly had no evil appearance. The spacious court-yard and the house which stood at the end of it, had nothing affrighting about them; however, as they pursued the road, which here gave a curve, and came opposite to the entrance, the servant suddenly exclaimed, shivering like an aspen:—'Oh, Sir, only look, look at the awful companions who spite of storm or weather watch the old man's dwelling.' La Croix now descried some singular figures, which sentinel like, stood on the right and left of the open gate; they were upright skeletons, their bony hands supported on great cudgels, but on their bodies stood no human skulls; here was one with the skull of a bear; there again that of a stag of twelve with stately antlers; another had that of a wolf; and another a fox; altogether a ghastly brotherhood, which seemed to hold here watch and ward. La Croix's horse started, and began to snort, and stared at the white figures, breathing hard. The servant made the sign of the cross three times towards them, as moved by the wind they rattled fearfully. La Croix, howbeit not of the most valiant nature, yet somehow fancied that in virtue of his thrice seven drops, he had a certain claim to such society; he gave his horse the spur, and after a considerable struggle the frightened animal sprang past the skeletons into the court, followed by the domestic's beast. No barking of dogs greeted them here, the whole court seemed as if dead. An old mangy hound alone came creeping out of his kennel, but seemed to trouble himself very little about them. The house door was shut, and La Croix dismounted to open it; found it locked, he knocked, but no one opened; no living being was to be seen. The storm still raged, the wind whistled cold, and his cloak scarcely protected him. Even the horses trembled with the cold. La Croix grew impatient, and thundered at the door with a stake, which he found in the court, and at this noise an upper lattice was opened, and a nose appeared, then a pointed chin, and such a pair of eyes, that La Croix shrunk back; and at the question:—'What's your will? no one

is at home, and I will not open to you,' nearly lost his self-possession; so ghost-like was the figure that greeted him. 'Open the door, Mother Trude,' cried he, at length recollecting himself, 'and don't leave an old fellow-soldier of your master's standing so long here in a snow-storm; he will give you scant thanks for it when he returns home.'—'Who are you, then?' demanded the old woman."

We must go on to the end, with some abridgment.—

"Shortly after, with a fearful yelping and howling, the pack entered the court, followed by the Jäger himself. As he strode across the court, he was speaking to the old woman with his head turned the other way, so that the Hauptmann could not see his face. He shook his head dubiously once or twice, gave his hunting-spear and a light gun which he carried on his shoulder to the old woman at the door, and after shaking the snow from him, entered the apartment. La Croix advanced to meet him. 'Pardon,' said he, 'that a traveller astray has sought the shelter of your roof, and has induced your old servant to give him an admission by an untruth.'—'Through an untruth?' asked the Jäger, laying aside his wolf *Petz*; 'how so?'—'I told her that you knew me.'—'Now is that not so?' Lieut. La Croix, of Bernstorff's Company, in the regiment of Götz, is well known to me.' La Croix looked at him with surprise; 'but that you have come astray is not true,' pursued the Jäger. 'You seek for hidden knowledge, and think to find it here,' continued he, after a pause, casting his fur-cap on a bench, and replacing it by the green cap with the heathcock's feather. 'As it is two leagues from here to Ilsenburg, and I can give you no guide, and you cannot remain under the same roof with me, I beg of you to lay your business quickly before me.' During this time La Croix had been narrowly regarding the old man. The wild huntsman he was not—not a bit like him. He was an honest-looking, respectable figure, whose countenance was, indeed, disfigured by a cut, and whose dark eyes seemed to pierce into the heart. He scarcely recognized the old Reiter's picture; the ten devils which the latter had fancied about the old man's mouth, he could trace, for more mockery, more scorn had the Hauptmann never seen any mouth express. La Croix seated himself, and emptied the drops from the jug which the old woman had set before him. His host observed it, but did not whistle to her to refill it for him. 'You are fast,' began La Croix.—'The Jäger was silent.'—'I wish to become a sharer in such a fortune, and come to you to request you to guide me to the attainment of this object. My will is firm, and I am resolved to offer up all that is required. Would you a reward for your labour? You have but to ask.'—The old man had kept his eye fixed on La Croix while he spoke. 'Hauptmann La Croix,' said he, contemptuously, 'the cuirassier whom I met to-day as a Holkish Reiter at the charcoal-burners' huts was deceived by me, and has deceived you. I am as little fast as you are. If 'twere this belief gave you courage in the storm of Klosterberg, thank chance that the balls missed you, and hold that you have not paid too dearly your escape, with four doubloons, and swallowing a few drops of ox-gall. Before I held a protection from Tilly, I was compelled to play this farce, as I, myself an old and experienced soldier, well knew that in this wild place I could not protect myself better against the soldiery than by such devil's tricks. And now ye know all, and so ride on your way, and God be with you, if that is possible.'"

All true readers of romance—tired of the skull and cross-bones usually exhibited in scenes like this, or yet more averse to those humiliating after-explanations which reduce the terrors of *Ethelinda* and the forebodings of *Wilibald* to the emotions of stalls at Signor Bosco's show and of dress-boxes at M. Robin's theatre—will feel obliged to the author of 'The Pappenheimers' for the new turn to an old scene given in the above passage. But the greater part of the book is too unreal. The love-lorn heroines have the air of fancy-ball emotion and surprise; and the great generals and men of war, as has been indicated, are clad in pasteboard armour fit enough to make a show

in the 'Château des Déserts,'—but little like the "gloves of steel and helmets barred" of the real storm-spirits who played such conspicuous parts in German history.

ALMANACS AND POCKET-BOOKS.

FOREMOST amongst the almanacs for the coming year now lying on our table—that is, foremost amongst those not addressed to a special interest or to a particular class of readers—is, Mr. Charles Knight's *British Almanac and Companion*. Of this old and general favourite, it is hardly necessary for us to say that, besides the usual tabular and technical information found in such yearly compendiums, it contains original papers on Mathematics, Natural History, Philosophy, Chronology, Geography, and Statistics, together with a brief history and *résumé* of the Legislation, public improvements, and general march of domestic events for the past year. The original papers given in the present 'Companion' comprise—'A short Account of some recent Discoveries in England and Germany, relative to the Controversy on the Invention of Fluxions,' by Prof. De Morgan,—"Great Exhibition of 1851: Facts and Figures,"—a Summary of the recent Census Returns,—an article on the County Courts,—a record of Railway progress for the year,—a comparison of the Public Debts and Standing Armies of the European States,—and a table of Fluctuations in the Funds. One defect we notice in the present 'Companion,'—to which we call attention for the sake of future publications. For a series of years this work has given a report of the principal architectural improvements and buildings, which, though unavoidably imperfect, yet furnishes the architectural historian with useful materials. The new volume manifests an evident falling off in this department. Not only does it—contrary to former practice,—give scarcely any description of the buildings which it does mention,—but it takes no notice whatever of some of the chief works now in progress. Not a syllable is said concerning what, however it may turn out as a structure, deserved certainly to be spoken of as an important addition to our public buildings,—viz. the Record Office—now in course of being erected from the designs of Mr. Pennethorne. It is strange, too, that so conspicuous an object as the Rotunda in the centre of Leicester Square should either have escaped the architectural annalist's attention, or have been deemed unworthy of being commemorated by him. That edifice is only a private speculation, it is true; but it is one that puts to shame many of our public, or quasi-public, buildings. There is positive evidence of the artist in it. Somewhat remarkable is it, also, that no mention is made of the re-erection of the Marble Arch in Hyde Park, after so much had been said in the 'Companion' itself with regard to another site for that piece of architecture. Similarly ignored by the writer in the 'Companion' are—the Railway Terminus at King's Cross,—the Hotel at the Paddington station,—the very singular-looking church in Margaret Street, Cavendish Square,—Mr. Holford's mansion in Park Lane, and several other edifices of mark.—The last-mentioned building, if report may be trusted, is not only to vie with, but to surpass our most aristocratic mansions in internal display and in the capaciousness of the apartments.—Neither is what the architectural annalist of the 'Companion' does say of the few buildings which he mentions so satisfactory as might be wished. It is, for instance, but a tantalizing sort of information which informs us merely that the addition made by Mr. Wightwick to the Public Library at Plymouth "has an Italian palazzo front, with Greek details, and is the most ornate building in the town." If it

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deserves such a character, it surely deserved also something like positive description to enable us to shape it out generally,—instead of being left in vague and indistinct presentment.

The Fine Arts Almanac, or Artist's Remembrancer, commenced three years ago, adheres to the plan with which it opened, and has already collected a large mass of general information on the history and biography of Art and artists. The account of various Societies, public and private, connected with Art, and the appended lists of those who live by the use of brush, chisel, or needle in England, must, of course, render the little volume welcome to all members of the craft. Its more general contents will have an interest for classes beyond and larger than these—the ordinary reading public.

Pretty, as usual,—and aiming at being little more,—*Pansey's Ladies' Fashionable Repository* appears, in its blue cover, to make its annual appeal to the classes for whom it has long catered. Certainly, its singing is not of a very entralling class:—but we have in it a spirited rendering by Mrs. Howitt of the 'Danish National Anthem,'—which may interest some of our readers—poetical and others.—

King Christian stood by the lofty mast,
In smoke and night;
His sword dealt blows so full and fast,
Through Swedish helms and skulls they pass'd;
Down sunk each hostile spar and mast,
Mid smoke and night.
Fly! cried they, fly! fly all who can,
Who can face Denmark's Christian,
In fight?

Nils Juul he heard the tempests blow,
Stand for your life!
Aloft he bade the red flag go,
Stroke upon stroke he dealt the foe;
They cried aloud, while tempests blow,
Stand for your life!
Fly, cried they all, to shelter fly!
For who can Denmark's Juul defy,
In strife?

Oh, sea! the fires of Vessel* drave
Through smoke-cloud dread,
Then to thy bosom rushed the brave,
With him flashed terror and the grave;
The ramparts heard the roar which drave
The storm-cloud dread:
From Denmark thunders Tordenshield†
To Heaven for aid they all appealed,
And fled!

Thou Danish path of fame and might,
Oh gloomy sea!
Receive thy friend, who for the right
Dares danger face, in death's despite,
Proudly as thou the tempests' might,
Oh gloomy sea!
And lead me on, though storms may rave,
Through strife and victory to my grave,
With thee.

The blind Bard so well known to the readers of the *Athenæum*, Miss Frances Brown, contributes, as usual, a variety of pieces to *Fulcher's Ladies' Memorandum Book, and Poetical Miscellany*. This year, she has a singular Eastern tale in prose and several slight legends and sentiments in verse:—all marked by the graceful fancy and deep feeling that characterize a Muse whose singing, like the nightingale's, has ever a touch of sadness caught from the night amid which she sings.—We extract a poem entitled 'The Woodland Waits.'—

The trees were tall and leafy
Around our home that grew,
Where a noble German river ran
The green old forest through.
The wild fawn and the stately stag
Went by our open door,
And the birds about our cottage eaves
They sang for evermore.

'Twas sweet on April's morning,
'Twas sweet in summer's noon,
And when above the tallest pines
Uprose the harvest moon;
To hear our children's laughter ring
From out the ancient shade,
Or the music in our land's old songs
Their mingled voices made.

* The Admiral.
† The Admiral Vessel which received the title of Tordenshield after this battle.

And when the winds blew colder
At the good Christmas time,
They gathered round our woodland hearth
With sport, and tale, and rhyme.
The traveller marked our evening fire
Far through the frost-gemmed boughs,
But I know how bright its red light fell
Upon their fair young brows.

'Twas first our rosy Segolind
That pined away and died,
And then our thoughtful Ludovic
We laid him by her side.
And last our little fair Louise,
I think we loved her best,
Smiled on us as we watched one night,
And went with them to rest.

That was a glorious summer
On sky, and stream, and tree;
But wearily its bright days went
With Earnestine and me.
We toiled together in the fields
For many a sultry day,
Yet our hearts were in our children's graves
By the old church far away.

The woods were autumn's riches,
The beechen nuts grew brown,
The stormy winds of winter came
And shook the red leaves down,
And we had worked, and we had prayed,
And said we would not grieve,
But the cottage was a dreary place
As fell that Christmas eve.

The frost was on the forest,
The full moon in the sky,
And we tried to cheer each other's hearts,
My Earnestine and I.
With talk of far-off Christmas times,
And how the bythe waits sang
At midnight in the brave old town
We left when we were young.

But oh! the worldless memories
Came o'er us thick and fast,
With glad young voices ringing back
From all the nearer past!
We thought of those who wrenched our door
With holly boughs and leaves,
And sung their hymn by moonlight there
On other Christmas eves.

There rose a sound of singing
Close by our cottage door,
And such a strain the sleeping woods
Had never heard before.
You'll say it was a dream—but well
We knew the voices three—
For our own lost children sang that night
To Earnestine and me!

They sang no hymn nor carol
Our memory could discern,
But, friend, it was that blessed song
No earthly lips may learn.
For we have both grown dim of sight
And grey of hair since then,
And sat by many a winter's fire
But never grieved again.

It told us they were shadows
That seemed our lives to bound,
That all the changed would yet be true
And all the lost be found;
And I have wished that many a heart
Whom sorrow's waves wash o'er,
Had heard the woodland waits that sang
Beside our cottage door.

Passing from the region of sentiment to that of fact,—Parker's *Family Almanac and Educational Register* will give the reader interested in education an immense amount of carefully collected and well tabulated information about the universities, colleges and institutions, foundations and grammar-schools, training institutions for teachers, and so on:—together with a succinct history of the progress of popular education in England, both as a doctrine and as a material fact; but chiefly so far as the movement has connected itself with the Church of England.—*Dietrichsen and Hannay's* excellent and well-known *Royal Almanack* contains the usual amount of useful and well digested information which have insured it so large a circulation.—*Glenny's Garden Almanac and Florist's Directory, for the year 1852* contains directions for the management of an amateur's garden throughout the year, lists of show flowers, fruits and vegetables, new plants and flowers, and other information interesting to those persons who cultivate their own roses, private or professional.—*The Farmer's Almanac and Calendar for 1852* is addressed to a special audience, and is distinguished by its copious list of country fairs.—*The Reformer's Almanac and Political Year Book* keeps up its fire at all

ancient abuses:—doing, in its dry and statistic fashion, good service in many causes.—*Letts's Diary*, No. 10, for 1852 retains the usual features of interest which have made it almost a necessity to the man of business.—Several provincial newspapers, we observe, are beginning to publish sheet Almanacs for the cottage and the counting-house:—the proprietors of the *Manchester Examiner and Times*, for example, have issued such an almanac, which aims at making for itself a place in the series of such publications by the attention paid to local matters.—*Raphael and Zadkiel* continue their trade in the credulity of mankind:—growing more and more boastful, vulgar, illogical and mendacious year by year.

Among the cheap popular Almanacs several are now making an attempt to combine something of popular artistic illustration with the more solid attractions of literary and statistical matter. In some of these we meet with many ancient friends in new vestment:—old lay figures with new heads and the like, to suit change of subject and circumstance. Still, some have sufficient merit to constitute something of an educational power in the cottage and farm-house, hitherto familiar with only the hardest outlines and fieriest of tints in their pictorial embellishments. Of these, *The Illustrated London Almanac* is the best in point of illustration,—and perhaps also in general contents and character. It avoids the common fault of merely ephemeral works—the reproduction year after year of the same matter. Last year statistics were the great feature; this year considerable space is given to the pictorial and literary illustration of the modern progress of astronomy.—Mr. Clarke's *Crystal Palace Almanac for 1852* is of similar nature,—with a different choice of subjects. Here, as the name would suggest, the artists deal chiefly with the pictorial features of the Exhibition; and they may in this convenient and economical form render its great aspects familiar to many who were denied the advantage of seeing it for themselves.—*The Illustrated Exhibitor Almanac* possesses the usual features of a popular almanac with the addition of a series of illustrated months in various countries; some few of which illustrations—old or new—have considerable artistic merit. We would particularly single out the four 'Seasons,' by Johannot, as likely to administer in their degree to the growing popular taste for the beautiful in design and execution.—The *Bookseller's Almanac* is an illustrated work of a different kind from the above. It is a handsome broad sheet, inclosed in a very graceful border, and appropriately headed by an excellent coloured lithographic view of the Booksellers' Provident Retreat at Abbots Langley, in Hertfordshire.

A Hand-Book of the English Language, for the Use of Students of the Universities and higher Classes of Schools. By R. G. Latham, M.D. Taylor & Co.

THE study of the English language has of late received more attention, and been pursued in a more philosophical spirit, than formerly. Englishmen are beginning to feel the inconsistency of knowing less about the theory of their own tongue than of that of any other. The conviction is gaining ground, that the English language, if not so scientific as the Greek or the German, may be made almost as valuable a means of intellectual culture in the hands of a competent instructor. To acquire a critical knowledge of English, the several elements of which it is composed, the relative proportions of each, the changes that they have undergone, and the way in which they were at first introduced and have since amalgamated together,

demand a good deal of patient investigation. Add to this, a thorough comprehension and ready command of all the terms of the language;—and it will at once be evident that no Englishman can be really master of his language without having gone through a course of study beneficial as a discipline of the mind, and fraught with information which a due regard to national feeling must make him anxious to receive. The deficiency of inflections, the numerous anomalies, and the other imperfections which may be considered drawbacks to our tongue as a means of education, are more than counterbalanced by the fact of its *being* our tongue, and spreading over so vast a portion of the inhabited world.

No man has done more than Dr. Latham to place the study of English on its proper footing. By his philosophical treatment of it, he has raised it to the dignity which it deserves,—and shown that, while an essential in the earliest education of children, it is not unworthy to hold a high place in college pursuits. His present work is a sort of medium between his large and school grammars. It is rendered much more interesting, as well as more useful, to a student than the school grammar, by containing not merely a greater number of facts, but also a more copious discussion of principles and a fuller explanation of the origin and reasons of particular usages. On the other hand, it is less abstruse and more practical than the large work on the English language.—It begins with an account of the "General Ethnological Relations of the English Language," followed by a "History and Analysis of the English Language." This portion of the volume contains much historical and ethnological information. It also describes the leading characteristics of the tongue at different periods, and points out some of the tendencies of the present age. Then follow about fifty pages on "sounds, letters, pronunciation, spelling;" in which we find a complete list of all the simple sounds, with their various combinations,—some excellent remarks on the alphabet, its history, deficiencies, and redundancies,—the laws which regulate the changes of letters in different connexions, and the reasons on which these laws are founded,—with an explanation of accent and quantity.

The next part treats of Etymology,—and occupies a much larger space. Dr. Latham having previously explained the principles on which the changes of letters rest, is enabled to make the reader easily understand how the apparently anomalous forms of the plural number have originated. As the Possessive Case is not generally understood correctly, we will cite what is here stated on the subject.—

"The true nature of the genitive form in 's.—It is a common notion that the genitive form *father's* is contracted from *father his*. The expression in our liturgy, for *Jesus Christ his sake*, which is merely a pleonastic one, is the only foundation for this assertion. As the idea, however, is not only one of the commonest, but also one of the greatest errors in etymology, the following three statements are given for the sake of contradiction to it. 1. The expression *the Queen's Majesty* is not capable of being reduced to the *Queen his Majesty*. 2. In the form *his* itself, the *s* has precisely the power that it has in *father's*, &c. Now *his* cannot be said to arise out of *he + his*. 3. In the Slavonic, Lithuanic, and classical tongues, the genitive ends in *s*, just as it does in English; so that even if the words *father his* would account for the English word *father's*, it would not account for the Sanskrit genitive *pad as*, of a foot; the Zend *dugh-dhar-s*, of a daughter; the Lithuanic *dugter-s*; the Greek *δούλ-ος*; the Latin *dent-is*, &c."

The whole of this subject of Etymology is handled in a most masterly manner. All peculiarities of inflection are carefully considered,

and, if possible, traced to their true origin, or referred to some general law. It is wonderful how few inexplicable anomalies are allowed to remain after Dr. Latham has brought his powerful analysis to bear upon them. By making free use of the Anglo-Saxon, and occasionally of other languages, he gives the reader a thorough insight into all the varieties of inflection and formation. His account of the Verb is highly instructive.

Syntax and Prosody are the topics discussed in the remainder of the work:—the former naturally engrossing by far the greatest share of attention. Here, too, a truly philosophical spirit prevails. In explaining rules of construction Dr. Latham goes to the root of the matter, and shows the dependence of the laws of language upon those of thought. He decides in all disputed or doubtful cases by a reference to the idea intended to be conveyed, rather than to the external form of the words used. We give as an instance the following passage from the chapter on the "Concord of Verbs."—

"In respect to the concord of person, the following rules will carry us through a portion of the difficulties.—

"Rule.—In sentences, where there is but one proposition, when a noun and a pronoun of different persons are in apposition, the verb agrees with the first of them,—*I, your master, command you* (not *commands*): *your master, I, commands you* (not *command*).

"To understand the nature of the difficulty, it is necessary to remember that subjects may be extremely complex, as well as perfectly simple; and that a complex subject may contain, at one and the same time, a noun substantive and a pronoun,—*I, the keeper; he, the merchant, &c.* Now, all noun-substantives are naturally of the third person,—*John speaks, the men run, the commander gives orders.* Consequently, the verb is of the third person also. But the pronoun with which such a noun-substantive may be placed in apposition, may be a pronoun of either person, the first or second: *I or thou—I the commander—thou the commander.*—In this case the construction requires consideration. With which does the verb agree? with the substantive which requires a third person? or with the pronoun which requires a first or second? Undoubtedly, the idea which comes first is the leading idea; and, undoubtedly, the idea which explains, qualifies, or defines it, is the subordinate idea: and, undoubtedly, it is the leading idea which determines the construction of the verb. We may illustrate this from the analogy of a similar construction in respect to number,—*a man with a horse and a gig meets me on the road.* Here the ideas are three; nevertheless, the verb is singular. No addition of subordinate elements interferes with the construction that is determined by the leading idea. In the expression *I, your master*, the ideas are two; viz. the idea expressed by *I*, and the idea expressed by *master*. Nevertheless, as the one only explains or defines the other, the construction is the same as if the idea were single. *Your master, I*, is in the same condition. The general statement is made concerning the *master*, and it is intended to say what *he* does. The word *I* merely defines the expression by stating who the *master* is. Of the two expressions the latter is the awkwardest. The construction, however, is the same for both. From the analysis of the structure of complex subjects of the kind in question, combined with a rule concerning the position of the subject which will soon be laid down, I believe that, for all single propositions, the foregoing rule is absolute.

"Rule.—In all single propositions the verb agrees in person with the noun (whether substantive or pronoun) which comes first.

"But the expression *it is I your master, who command (or commands) you*, is not a single proposition. It is a sentence containing two propositions.—

1. It is I.
2. Who commands you.

Here the word *master* is, so to say, undistributed. It

may belong to either clause of the sentence, i.e. the whole sentence may be divided into

Either—it is I your master—
Or—your master who commands you.

This is the first point to observe. The next is, that the verb in the second clause (*command or commands*) is governed, not by either the personal pronoun or the substantive, but by the relative,—i.e., in the particular case before us, not by either *I* or *master*, but by *who*. And this brings us to the following question—with which of the two antecedents does the relative agree? with *I* or with *master*?

"This may be answered by the two following rules;—
Rule 1.—When the two antecedents are in the same proposition, the relative agrees with the first. Thus—

1. It is I your master—
2. Who command you.

Rule 2.—When the two antecedents are in different propositions, the relative agrees with the second. Thus—

1. It is I—
2. Your master who commands you.

This, however, is not all. What determines whether the two antecedents shall be in the same or in different propositions? I believe that the following rules for what may be called the *distribution of the substantive antecedent* will bear criticism.

"Rule 1.—That when there is any natural connexion between the substantive antecedent and the verb governed by the relative, the antecedent belongs to the second clause. Thus, in the expression just quoted, the word *master* is logically connected with the word *command*; and this fact makes the expression, *It is I your master who commands you*, the better of the two.

"Rule 2.—That when there is no natural connexion between the substantive antecedent and the verb governed by the relative, the antecedent belongs to the first clause. *It is I, John, who command* (not *commands*) *you*.

"To recapitulate, the train of reasoning has been as follows:—1. The person of the second verb is the person of the relative. 2. The person of the relative is that of one of two antecedents. 3. Of such two antecedents the relative agrees with the one which stands in the same proposition with itself. 4. Which position is determined by the connexion or want of connexion between the substantive antecedent and the verb governed by the relative.

"Respecting the person of the verb in the first proposition of a complex sentence there is no doubt. *I, your master, who commands you to make haste, am* (not *is*) *in a hurry.* Here, *I am in a hurry* is the first proposition; *who commands you to make haste*, the second. It is not difficult to see why the construction of sentences consisting of two propositions is open to an amount of latitude which is not admissible in the construction of single propositions. As long as the different parts of a complex idea are contained within the limits of a single proposition, their subordinate character is easily discerned. When, however, they amount to whole propositions, they take the appearance of being independent members of the sentence."

With regard to the use of the subjunctive mood, Dr. Latham lays down the simple principle, that whenever both conditionality and uncertainty are implied—no matter what conjunction, or pronoun, or other part of speech is employed—then, and then only, the verb must be in the subjunctive mood. We have a little doubt as to the correctness of what follows.—

"Whenever two or more pronouns of different persons, and of the singular number, follow each other *disjunctively*, the question of concord arises. *I or you,—you or he,—he or I.* I believe, that, in these cases, the rule is as follows:—1. Whenever the words *either* or *neither* precede the pronouns, the verb is in the third person. *Either you or I is in the wrong; neither you nor I is in the wrong.* 2. Whenever the disjunctive is simple (i.e. unaccompanied with the word *either* or *neither*) the verb agrees with the first of the two pronouns.

I (or he) am in the wrong.
He (or I) is in the wrong.
Thou (or he) art in the wrong.
He (or thou) is in the wrong.

We need only say, in conclusion, that the

English student is deeply indebted to Dr. Latham for this valuable addition to his labours.

Daughter Deborah. By the Author of 'The Miser's Secret.' 3 vols. Saunders & Otley.

THESE volumes are dedicated to the "Gentlemen of the Press of England,"—owing to whose encouragement of his former effort the author has found courage to present himself a second time before the public. We cannot charge ourselves with any large amount of that encouragement which being a critical sin the author has here visited with signal retribution. We found in his former work—and told him so—nearly all the faults by which a novel can be encumbered. But inasmuch as, for the sake of a certain promise that we fancied we saw glimmering through its crotchets and crudities, we bade him try again,—such of our readers as may find themselves on that authority committed to the dulness of 'Daughter Deborah' have, we admit, a right to demand from us a more cautious and less indulgent exercise of our function in future.

'Daughter Deborah' is a remarkable case of intellectual starvation. A book could scarcely be more meagre, cold, and flavourless. Rarely, indeed, have we read a work which, professing to deal with historical times and names of note, betrayed such scanty preparation and so much carelessness in getting up even the common details of dress and decoration needed to carry back the imagination of the reader. The scene is laid in London, at the crisis of the Restoration; but as far as local tint and individuality of treatment are concerned it might belong as well to any other period of historical experience in which blazing tar barrels, a rejoicing mob, and oxen roasted whole were the order of the day.—When we take into account how minute and vivid are the details that have come down to us of both the political and the domestic life of that time, it must be either negligence or inefficiency which has produced the flat and profitless result before us. The novelist has not thrown himself heartily into his work,—but has written quite from the outside of things. There is no gleam of genuine impulse or enthusiasm to be discerned in all the book. The author writes with malice prepense, to make a book according to receipt,—and there is a total absence of vital warmth in the result. The characters are wooden dolls dressed in the conventional properties of a not well appointed theatrical wardrobe, and the writer speaks their speeches for them—very badly. The dialogues are all but interminable, and the proportion of words to meanings exaggerates the relation of sack to bread permitted to himself by a celebrated soldier. As an example of conversations spun out to a great length wherein next to nothing is said, take this.—

"Whether in friendship or enmity say what you have to say."—"As if I'd speak to you on such a subject in anything but friendship."—"To the point, sir."—"I declare you frighten me out of it. The matter was but a trifle, yet as I know you to be jealous of your honour I considered that you ought to be apprised of certain passages."—"Certain passages?"—"proceed."—"Relating to —."—"Why this hesitation? go on—relating to —."—"Your grandson."—"My grandson?"—"Yes, that worthy youth Abraham Clark."

And so the dialogues throughout the book dribble on,—like nothing in nature except that most melancholy of all failures *Tea* that has been made before the water had fully boiled!

The chief character on whom the author has attempted to lay hands in this book is none other than "John Milton!" The picture of the poet blind and dependent on his daughter as his reader and amanuensis is exaggerated,

repulsive, yet feeble. Take the following scene.—

"In that sweet, sound, calm, refreshing, dreamless sleep, was a young girl then lying in one of the scant chambers of that homely and humble abode. Wrapped in profound repose she was perfectly insensible to the fact that she was a denizen of a world of cankering care and blighting sorrow. She knew nothing of the hardness of the couch on which she was reposing, nothing of the scant simplicity of its garniture."—"The bell again jingled an impatient summons. A slight disturbance passed over the face of the sleeper."—"Again rang out the metallic sound,—and with a start the young girl burst the trammels of her slumbers. 'I am coming, father, I am coming,' she exclaimed in a loud key, * * and, with eyes only partially unbarred, she wrapped herself in her cloak with an almost instinctive facility and descended to the chamber below.—'Deborah, daughter Deborah, you have been long and slow in coming. I have tarried until my patience well nigh failed.'—'I slept,' said Deborah, 'I was weary, and I slept.'—'Ay, the light, the gladness, and the unthinking lack not the power to forget their happiness while the afflicted are ever wakeful.' * * 'But is it sin to sleep?' asked the daughter.—'Is it sin to sleep?' repeated the father, as though pondering on his daughter's words. 'I know not whether our first parents slept in Paradise, or if sleep be a fruit of sin untasted till the Fall. * * Doubtless sleep hath the smack and flavour of sin.'—'What would you have me do?' asked the young girl.—'You were so long in coming that the thoughts which were struggling through my brain have taken flight.'—'Perhaps they will return to-morrow.'—'To-morrow! nay, they have passed into the oblivious grave of eternity.' * * The young girl drew her cloak about her and with a sort of despairing shudder leant against the wall and struggled fruitlessly against a heavy yawn.—'Oh, mundane nature,' exclaimed the poet, 'oh, nature base and corporeal, can nothing rouse the self-indulgent from their sloth?'—"Father," said the girl, 'it was long past midnight before I laid me down; I have not slept two hours.'—"Get thee back to thy couch, Deborah."—"Nay, father."—"Away," I say, 'thy refractoriness of spirit hath put to flight those cherub forms of poetry which had surrounded my mental vision.'"

However, Deborah lights her candle and sits down to write. "A short black cloak hastily folded round her in unstudied negligence brought out the voluminous snow clouds of her white night dress in striking contrast."

"I am quite ready," said Deborah, 'I am waiting.'—"Too late," responded the poet; 'think you, Deborah, that a holy and inspired muse will wait while a sleepy girl unbars the portals of her eyes and considers will she or will she inscribe the sacred impulses of her aspiring spirit.'—"Oh, that I could live without sleep!" ejaculated Deborah.—'Deborah! those words have more of adoration than of prayer, and savour of thine own impatient spirit.'"

Through the whole of the book John Milton is represented as thus harsh, tyrannical, mistrustful and altogether ungentlemanlike. For instance, in the presence of his daughter—who is drawn as a model of beauty and devotedness—he is made to complain that "she lags and wearies as the day advances, and often when the spirit of inspiration is strongest on me she can scarcely be roused from her sleepy pillow. Women are weak vessels; they lack the stronger energies of masculine intellect."—"Now, there is good reason for believing that in his domestic relations John Milton was far from being an agreeable companion:—but the most crabbed old Nabob who ever came home from India with a liver complaint, and lost his fortune by the bank breaking when his back was turned, could scarcely be rationally presented as going through three volumes in the strain here attributed to the author of 'Paradise Lost.'—As to story or plot, there is little or none in this book. The only mystery made is so transparent that the author's ingenuity is taxed not to betray it till the proper time comes.

We would have it distinctly understood this

time that we do not encourage the author of 'Daughter Deborah' to try his hand at another novel. We repeat what we have said before,—that he is not without talent:—but so far as it rests with us as a portion of the "Press of England," we decline sanctioning his farther attempts in this direction. In a world wherein the realities and duties of life are so earnest and imperative, every man can, if he will, find the means of employing the talent which he has in some kind of labour more profitable to himself and others than the writing of historical novels which are neither true to history nor amusing in their misuse of it.

The Pursuivant of Arms; or, Heraldry founded upon Facts. By J. Planché, Esq. Wright.

A most venerable and lofty science was Heraldry in the estimation of our forefathers:—taking cognizance of no meaner things than States and Empires,—dealing with knights and nobles, "kings and kaisars,"—and boasting an antiquity far beyond what would satisfy Molière's antiquary, who was content to begin at the deluge. "At hevy'n will I begyn," says the Boke of St. Alban's, "wher were v orderis of angelles, and now stande but iv in cote armoris of knowledge, encrounyd ful hye wyth precious stones." Arms are assigned to Adam:—who according to Sylvanus Morgan bore "a plain red shield, with a shield white or argent borne upon it as an escutcheon of pretence," because Eve was an heiress. Then, with what satisfaction did the Leighs and the Holmes's and the Ferpces determine the arms of all the chief antediluvians:—assigning to Jubal, most appropriately, "a golden harp on an azure field," and to Tubal-Cain a silver hammer surmounted by a golden crown,—while their sister Naamah, as the inventress of weaving, was duly provided with the arms of a "gentilwoman," "a silver carding-comb in a lozenge gules!" What a wide field for the exercise of their ingenuity did these worthy heralds find, too, in Jewish and profane history:—coats of arms being found for all the kings of Israel and all the heroes of the Trojan war; while even the apocryphal ancient history of England was appealed to—and by a Garter King at Arms, Sir William Segar—at the commencement of James the First's reign, to quell the battle royal then raging between the English and Scottish heralds on the question of precedence,—and which he learnedly set at rest by "the fact," that Brutus, King of Britain, "gave to his eldest son Loocrine, England with arms or, a lion passant-gardant gules," while to his second son he gave Scotland, and her lion rampant gules, which therefore *must*, as in duty bound, take the second quarter of the royal shield.

It was doubtless these extravagant fancies that caused the science, which for more than three centuries had held so high a place that a knowledge of it was considered indispensable both to the scholar and the gentleman, to fall into such contempt as to be designated by the flippant wits of the last century as "the science of fools with long memories":—"a saying, as Mr. Planché remarks, "of more wit than wisdom," since "the abuse of an art can never, amongst thinking men, lessen the use of it, and until all respect for high and noble deeds shall be destroyed on earth, an art which assists to perpetuate the remembrance of their enactors can never truly be called 'the science of fools.'"

Like most modern writers on the subject, Mr. Planché is inclined to assign a very recent date to heraldry. Certain it is, that the most vehement advocate of its antiquity must now throw aside the claims, not only of the antediluvians and patriarchs to armorial bearings, but of the heroes of antiquity, and even of the Emperors

of Rome,—although the eagle may doubtless be considered as "the badge" of the Empire. We much question whether Sylvanus Morgan himself, if living now, would not be compelled by force of evidence to yield up his claim as to the ancient world. But then, did not Arthur, when in true knightly fashion he buckled his good sword Excalibur on his side, bear the image of "our lady" on his shield?—and Charlemagne, did not he take the lilies of France as his arms? Alas! Arthur in history is little more than a name; and Charlemagne, so far from adopting armorial bearings—or indeed knowing anything about them—always, we know, used a gem of exquisite Greek workmanship for his seal:—sure proof that there was no college of heralds in his times. Still, that many writers on heraldry, though in the absence of positive proof, should lean to the opinion that "coat armor" was known centuries before the Crusades, is scarcely surprising; for heraldry is a symbolical language, and symbolism was the mental characteristic of the earlier middle ages. We have, however, ample proof that heraldry was then unknown. The illuminations of the tenth and eleventh centuries present us with not a single specimen of blazon on the shield or on the standard; and in that most valuable record of contemporary usages, the Bayeux Tapestry, while we find crosses, rings, stripes, and somewhat that seems intended for a dragon, there is nothing approaching a regular heraldic figure. The testimony of Anna Comnena, too, as quoted by Mr. Planché, proves that up to the period of the first crusade the French were destitute of armorial bearings. Describing the shields of the French knights (1081—1118) she remarks, that they are "of an oblong shape, the surface is not flat, but convex, and the exterior face is of metal so highly polished by frequent rubbings, with a boss of shining brass in the middle, as to dazzle the eyes of the beholders." Ere two generations, however, had passed away, every monarch and noble had his family arms painted on the shield and embroidered on the banner. Is it not therefore most probable that heraldry originated with the Crusades? This view Mr. Planché does not wholly oppose; although he asks,—“if correct, how is it that so important and remarkable a circumstance should be unrecorded by the minute chroniclers and veracious painters of the times, to whom, from their peculiar tastes and habits, it must have been as interesting as it was novel?” To this it may be replied, that the great fact of the first crusade, the capture of Jerusalem, occupied men's minds to the exclusion of every minor detail. Europe was actually struck dumb with wonder when the news arrived that the standard of Godfrey floated on the walls of the Holy City; and details far more striking than the adoption of a more regular system of "cognizances" than had hitherto prevailed were likely enough to find no record in the pages of the chronicler. About the time of the second crusade we find hints, so to speak, of armorial bearings; for, to a period preceding that belongs the often-quoted incident of our Henry the First when he knighted his son-in-law Geoffrey Plantagenet placing round his neck the shield emblazoned with "little golden lions,"—while the earliest seal with an heraldic bearing is that of Philip, first Count of Flanders, and dates 1164—a few years after.

We have said, "a more regular system of cognizances;"—for that cognizances were used even in the preceding century we have the testimony of Wace and others,—and it seems very probable that the original cognizance with accessories was the foundation of armorial bearings. At the beginning of the twelfth century, Mr. Planché has shown us, most of the rulers

of Northern Europe adopted a lion as their cognizance.—

"The Norman monarch of England, the kings of Scotland, Norway and Denmark, the native Princes of Wales, the Dukes of Normandy, the Counts of Flanders, Holland, Hainault, &c. all about the same period, i. e. sooner or later during the twelfth century, appear as with one accord to have displayed the lion as a device if not as a positive heraldic bearing: and that the lions of England may owe their origin to the assumption of one as a badge or cognizance by Henry I. previous to 1127, is exceedingly probable, for the following reasons: John of Salisbury tells us that Henry (in whose reign, as we have seen, the earliest known mention is made of a shield emblazoned with little golden lions) was surnamed the Lion of Justice; and Mr. Sharon Turner, in his History of England, remarks that this epithet was taken from the pretended prophecies of Merlin, which were then in great fashion and circulation, 'After two Dragons,' said Merlin, 'the Lion of Justice shall come, at whose roaring the Gallic Towers and Island Serpents shall tremble.' Such a surname would be sufficient to induce him to assume a lion for his badge, independent of any other motive. It may be also worth noticing that Henry's favourite residence in Normandy, and the place where he died was in the Forest of Lions, near a little town of that name frequently confounded with the great southern city of Lyon, and that his second wife Adeliza, whom he married in 1121, was daughter of Godfrey, first Duke of Louvaine, of which duchy the allusive arms were eventually also a lion. ('Leuwon: Leeuwen: Leones:—Oliv. Vred. Vol. I. p. xxxvi.)"

To this second marriage Mr. Planché seems inclined to assign the second lion in the royal arms;—we should, however, rather refer it to the second Henry, whose father, as we have seen, bore more than one lion on his shield. This we allow is but conjectural; for—

"The great seal of Henry II. gives us no further information, the inside of the shield being alone visible; and the story of his having added a second lion to his arms on his marriage with Eleanor of Aquitaine, rests, as I have before remarked, on no contemporary evidence. The earliest undoubted representation of a royal English achievement occurs on the seal of his son John, afterwards King of England, who, during the life of his father, used one, on which he is represented bearing a shield charged with two lions passant, the same number being borne by his natural son, Richard de Varenne passant-regardant. On the first seal of Richard I. we find a shield charged with a lion counter-rampant, that is, with his face turned to the sinister or left side of the escutcheon, and as the convex form of the shield enables us to see but half of it, Sir Henry Spelman, in his 'Aspillogia,' conjectures there would be another lion on the sinister side, forming a coat that would be blazoned, 'two lions combatant'; and that Richard, during the life of his father, bore, as his brother John did, more than one lion on his shield, we have evidence in the verses of a contemporary poet, who makes William de Barr say he knew Richard 'by the lions grinning in his shield,' 'rictus agnosco leonum illius in clypeo'; establishing the plurality as strongly as John of Marmoustier has those of Henry I. or of Geoffrey of Anjou. On the second Great Seal of Richard, used after his return from Jerusalem and his captivity in Germany, A.D. 1194, we have the first representation of the three lions or leopards, which have from that time descended to us as the royal arms of England. This latter seal also gives us the very interesting peculiarity of a crest, the helmet being surmounted by a semi-circle of rays, like a demi-soleil, in the centre of which appears a single lion or leopard."

The question whether the royal lions are to bear that name or to be called "leopards," has, as our readers doubtless remember, been fiercely canvassed. The general view has been, that if a single lion occupy the shield, he is to be called by his right name,—but if there be more than one, then, notwithstanding the royal length of the tail and the shaggy majesty of the mane, they can only claim the title of "leo-

pards." Cœur de Lion's lions, however, were called by their right name; although his nephew, the third Henry, calls them "leopards" in many documents. Edward the Third, and the Black Prince, and Richard the Second speak even of their crests as "the leopard." These are at least proofs that in the palmy days of heraldry the leopard was not viewed as an inferior animal. Finally, toward the close of the fifteenth century "the royal animal regained his name, and the arms of England have ever since been blazoned "Gules, three Lions passant-regardant, or."

Almost contemporaneous with the adoption of the lion by the monarchs and rulers of northern Europe was the assumption of the eagle by the rulers of the eastern and southern portions. Pre-eminent among these is the double-headed eagle of the Germanic empire,—doubtless assumed by the emperors as successors of the Cæsars. But while we can easily account for the adoption of the royal beast or the royal bird by the sovereigns of Europe, it seems most difficult to assign a reason for the monarchs of a nation which always stood high, not only in political power but in arms, contenting themselves with the simple bearing of a flower! Indeed, we can scarcely conceive of less appropriate arms for a warlike nation than the lilies of France, with their *far niente* motto, "they toil not, neither do they spin" (*non laborant neque nunt*),—suitable enough for the saloons of Versailles, or the boudoir of *la petite Trianon*, but all unfit for the battle-field. It is, therefore, not surprising that many French heralds should have maintained that the so called lilies were spear-heads:—and eagerly has this question been canvassed. Indeed—

"Next to the origin of heraldry itself, perhaps nothing connected with it has given rise to such controversy as the origin of this celebrated charge. It has been gravely asserted that it was brought down from Heaven by an angel, and presented to Clovis, King of the Franks. Upon calls it '*les gladioli*,' and his translator, Dame Juliana Barnes, tells us that the arms of the King of France 'were certainly sende by an Angell from Heaven, that is to say, iij. flouris in manner of swordis in a field of azure, the which certain armys were given to the aforesaid Kyng of Fraunce in sygne of everlasting trowbull, and that he and his successors always with battle and sword should be punished.' It has been also called a toad, and the head of a spear, and Dallaway and Lower incline to the latter belief. I am not going to record all the arguments which have been from time to time brought forward in support of this or that theory. My province is to state facts, and leave you to draw your own deductions. As an ornament, the Fleur de lys is seen on Roman monuments, and as the top of a sceptre or sword-hilt from the earliest periods of the French monarchy. As a badge or cognizance it first appears on the seals of Louis VII. of France, called *Le Jeune*, and also surnamed Fleury, from the Abbey of that name, the favourite retreat of the French kings, and where Philip I. was buried. By Philip II., surnamed Augustus, the contemporary of our Richard I. and John, it was borne both singly and repeated '*sans nombre*;' and analogy supports the conclusion which one of the most intelligent of French writers on this subject came to long ago,—that the Fleur de lys, or Flower de Luce, was merely a rebus, signifying Fleur de Louis or Flower of Lewis."

This is evidently the true origin; and it seems to us also to supply the reason for the remarkable partiality of the Capetian race to the name of Louis. The above is a striking illustration of what are termed "armes parlantes;" and which certainly were not viewed with contempt at an earlier period, whatever might be the opinion of later heralds,—since, as Mr. Planché truly remarks, "it would be difficult to find an ancient coat that did not originally allude to the name, estate, or profession of the bearer, excepting, of course, those display-

ing simply the honourable ordinaries." Now, the only exceptions to this rule which our memory supplies us with are those which refer so forcibly to Eastern warfare,—the red cross, the Saracen's head, the frequent scallop shell, and the crescent,—not to mention the "water-bouquet," which, with Mr. Lower, we think belongs also to the Crusades, during which so much suffering was endured from want of water that the knight who won access to a spring or protected the water-carriers by his good sword would receive greater honour from his brethren in arms than if he slew a "Saracen gentleman." All these things prove to us that the origin of Heraldry was connected with the Crusades,—and probably with the first of them.

Mr. Planché's theory of "the honourable ordinaries," although such as would make the worthy heralds of the sixteenth century stand aghast, is not improbable. He refers the Cross, the Saltire, the Chief, the Bend, the Chevron,—in short, all "the nine honourable ordinaries,"—to the various means used to strengthen the shield by bars of wood or metal. This opinion is supported with much ingenuity, and his illustrations strongly corroborate it. Still, we can scarcely agree to such matter-of-fact handling of the poetry of Heraldry; especially when we bear in mind that it had its birth at a most romantic period, one, too, when symbolical meanings were sought for in almost everything. It is but just, however, to Mr. Planché to say, that while he goes far to strip Heraldry of its poetical element, he willingly advocates its importance in genealogical and historical inquiries: terming it "the short-hand of history," and recommending its more general study. Perhaps we cannot better conclude than by letting our author speak for himself.—

"And now, gentle reader, ere we part, allow me briefly to recapitulate the Facts which I have endeavoured to establish in the foregoing pages. Firstly, that Heraldry appears as a science at the commencement of the thirteenth century, and that although armorial bearings had then been in existence undoubtedly for some time previous, no precise date has yet been discovered for their first assumption. Secondly, that in their assumption the object of the armiger was, not, as it has been so generally assumed and believed, to record any achievement or to symbolize any virtue or qualification, but simply to distinguish their persons and properties; to display their pretensions to certain honours or estates; attest their alliances or acknowledge their feudal tenures. Thirdly, that wherever it has been possible to sift the evidence thoroughly, it has appeared that the popular traditions of the origin of certain singular coats of arms have been the inventions of a later period.—Stories fabricated to account for the bearings, and sometimes flatter the descendants of the family by attributing to their ancestors the most improbable adventures or achievements. Fourthly, that the real value of the study of Heraldry has but recently become apparent, and that, however some may regret the demolition of old and familiar legends, the importance of eliciting genealogical facts must be admitted by all, and the new interest thus imparted to the Science elevates it in the eyes of many who have hitherto looked upon it with indifference, if not with contempt."

Although we cannot wholly agree with Mr. Planché, we bear willing testimony to his careful research; and shall be glad if his remarks contribute to awaken a more general interest in a science which, though no longer maintaining the pre-eminent station which our forefathers assigned to it, is still indispensable to a full acquaintance with the peculiarities of the Middle Ages—indeed with their history.

Béranger. Two Hundred of his Lyrical Poems done into English Verse. By William Young. New York, Putnam.

This collection—which we apprehend is on a larger scale than any previous one of the kind,

—is a reprint, with additions, of a work published in England three or four years ago. Not merely from the bulk of the volume, but likewise from the tone of its preface, it is evident that Mr. Young regards his labour as one claiming minute attention. This makes it expedient for the critic to be more strict than in other circumstances it would have been either needful or considerate that he should be.

Our translator has not overstated the difficulties of his task. There can be few, if any, lyrics harder to render in English verse than Béranger's. The artist is called upon to reproduce the greatest grace in union with the greatest simplicity,—to offer an equivalent for national humour, alternately broad and delicate, yet always appealing to the universal sympathies of humanity,—to present a transcript of some of the most polished, yet artless, versification in existence. Our English rhythms, because they are fuller of music than those of France, are inadequate substitutes for the more meagre but also more piquant metres of the *chansonniers*. Be it remembered, too, that though our language is rich where the French language is poor,—it is apt to be coarse where the parlance of our neighbours is the finest. In place of the jargon—half *esprit*, half jingle—which gives its arresting charm to many a French *refrain*, we have often nothing of nicer taste than slang to offer. The popular sayings of the two countries no more run in parallels than do their passions and pomposities. The same difficulty which makes the *tirades* of Corneille sound so absurd and common-place when translated—rises up as an obstacle to the paraphraser, whether he attempts to render one of Madame Dudevant's prose-pictures of Venice, or some such half-arch half-pensive song as "Le Grenier," or "Roger Bontemps."

None of these unquestionable general truths seem to have been apprehended by Mr. Young;—or else he does not possess the expressive power of the poet who is to render foreign poets. His work justifies both suspicions,—and suggests the ungrateful toil of one who has set himself to copy a cameo with a sledge-hammer,—to touch an enamel with a coach-painter's brush. For the *malice* of the *vaudeville couplet*, Mr. Young gives us the homely "mischief" of the Clare Market ballad. The tender yet popular singer—the *naïf* and poignant satirist—the boon companion who wears his vine-wreath, not as a Silenus, but as a Faun would wear it,—is here presented as a being little more subtle or accomplished than the rhyesters who versified Marshal Haynau's visit to the Brewery, and who now, like Wisdom, are crying in the streets concerning the antecedents and destinies of Bloomerism. Is not such a character deserved by a versifier who employs such flowers of speech as "the go," "draw it mild," "old clo," "shocking bad hat," &c.—and who does not even use his "vernacular" pure? This, such nondescript words as "old hunk" (for "old hunk"), because "a word was wanted to rhyme with 'drunk,'"—as "Liz," by way of translating "Lisette," rather drearily illustrate.—In brief, want of power, want of poetry, and want of taste characterize Mr. Young's translations. Infinitely superior in every respect are the specimens which some years ago appeared in *Tait's* and *Blackwood's Magazines*, and the more venturesome paraphrases of Father Prout. The reader shall be furnished with some opportunity of making the comparison. For this purpose, we will offer the first two stanzas of "Roger Bontemps" as translated by Mr. Young.—

To show our hypocondriacs,
In days the most forlorn,
A pattern set before their eyes,
Roger Bontemps was born.
To live obscurely, at his will,
To keep aloof from strife—

Hurrah for fat Roger Bontemps;
This is his rule of life!

To sport, when holidays occur,
The hat his father wore;
With roses or with ivy leaves
To trim it, as of yore;
To wear a coarse old cloak, his friend
For twenty years—no less—
Hurrah for fat Roger Bontemps;
This is his style of dress!

Did it never occur to Mr. Young that the very name of the hero of this lay, being a *canting* name (to use the heraldic distinction), claimed its paraphrase as well as the song itself? The following stanzas from one of the elder English translations referred to, though open to amendment, convey much more of the tune and humour of Béranger,—

To shame the fretfulness
That sullen fools display,
Amidst a land's distress
Was born one Robin May.
All snarlers to despise,—
Live free—and shun display,—
Ah, gay! was the device
Of comely Robin May.
The hat his father owned
On holidays to wear,
With rose and ivy bound,
To give a buxom air;
Coarse jerkin, patched and torn,
With years of service grey,—
Gay!—was the costume worn
By comely Robin May.

Let us try Mr. Young once again by the opening verses of one of Béranger's finest and most favourite songs. These are thus rendered by him.—

"Shepherd, thou say'st the star that rules
Our fate in Heaven is bright."
"Yes, but 'tis there, my son, concealed
Within the veil of night."
"The secrets of that aureole calm
'Tis said thou canst explore."
Shepherd, what is yon star that shoots,
Shoots, and is seen no more?"
"My son, a mortal has expired;
His star that moment fell;
He quaffed the circling cup, and sang,
The tide of mirth to swell.
Now sleeps he sound, beside the bowl
He chanted heretofore."
"Shepherd, again a star that shoots,
Shoots, and is seen no more?"

Compare the above, with its excruciating burden, with the following paraphrase by Father Prout.—

"Shepherd! they say that a star presides
Over life!"—" 'Tis a truth, my son!
But its secrets from men the firmament hides
Except for some favoured one."
"Shepherd! they say that a link unbroken
Connects our fate with some favourite star;
O! what may yon shooting light betoken,
That falls, falls, and is quenched afar?"
"The death of a mortal, my son, who held
In his banqueting hall high revel,
And his music was sweet, and his wine excellent,
And Life's path seemed long and level.
No sigh was given, no word was spoken,
When his pleasure Death came to mar,
But what does yon milder light betoken,
That falls, falls, and is quenched afar?"

&c. &c.

It is true that in the above two stanzas the polyglott Priest of Watergrasshill goes to the very verge of paraphraser's licence, by amplifying, retrenching, and substituting. But he gives us the spirit and the tone of his original,—and to these Mr. Young can never rise. The vulgarisms cited above will for ever prevent his version from serving as a school-book Béranger, where the literal sense is the desideratum;—while his all-pervading want of poetical feeling will shut out his rhymes from that library of translated poetry which Coleridge and Moore and Cary and Wrangham and "many others more" have enriched by their scholastic and picturesque contributions.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN.—*Mark Scaworth: a Tale of the Indian Ocean.* By William H. G. Kingston, Esq.; with Illustrations by John Abelson.—It may be doubted whether four words exist which more suddenly and more universally fascinate the atten-

tion of the young than those with which *The Ancient Mariner* began his recital—"There was a ship." The Christmas fire-side, it would seem, might as well lack its blazing log and its holly berries as a sea-tale; and Mr. Kingston is the first, though we can well believe he will not prove the worst—of those who arrive with their histories of wreck and piracy, and desert islands in the South Seas, and lost children and tender-hearted savages, to make not the young only, but the old also, once again listen as eagerly as if scenery, machinery, and characters were all unfamiliar. Surely enough is here told at once to characterize and recommend 'Mark Seaworth.'—Another "sure card" for publishers that cater for the young is such a volume as *Anecdotes of the Habits and Instinct of Animals*, by Mrs. Lee, with illustrations by Harrison Weir. In this, creatures no less seducing than monkeys, lions, elephants, dogs, &c. are displayed in all—and perhaps somewhat more than all—their craft, sagacity, enterprise, greediness, and impudence. Our qualification, however, does not go beyond the habitual caution with which it may be as well to accompany tales and takings-for-granted concerning the animal creation. The enthusiasm which supports and is supported on minute observation and habitual study can hardly fail, in the end, a very little to colour the medium through which facts are seen and by which facts are recorded,—but this "very little" may bridge over the hair's-breadth space between the highest instincts and the lowest reasoning powers. Mrs. Lee, however, is less apocryphal in her anecdotes than many of her predecessors; and her authorities—to name only one, Professor Owen—are, for the most part, first-rate:—so that her book may be commended. Older readers, too, than those for whom it was originally meant may find entertainment in it.—The following whimsical story may be of use to all such as are liable to sudden passions for "pets."—"Two ladies, friends of a near relative of my own, from whom I received an account of the circumstance, were walking in Regent-street, and were accosted by a man who requested them to buy a beautiful little dog, covered with long, white hair, which he carried in his arms. Such things are not uncommon in that part of London, and the ladies passed on without heeding him. He followed, and repeated his entreaties,—stating that, as it was the last he had to sell, they should have it at a reasonable price. They looked at the animal; it was really an exquisite little creature, and they were at last persuaded. The man took it home for them, received his money, and left the dog in the arms of one of the ladies. A short time elapsed, and the dog, which had been very quiet, in spite of a restless, bright eye, began to show symptoms of uneasiness, and as he ran about the room, exhibited some unusual movements, which rather alarmed the fair purchasers. At last, to their great dismay, the new dog ran squeaking up one of the window curtains, so that when the gentleman of the house returned home a few minutes after, he found the ladies in consternation, and right glad to have his assistance. He vigorously seized the animal, took out his pen-knife, cut off its covering, and displayed a large rat to their astonished eyes, and, of course, to its own destruction."

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THE ECLIPSE OF THALES.

Claymore, Enfield.

WHILE astronomers are engaged in correcting and perfecting their theory of the motions of the Moon's node, the result of which will, I trust, be ere long to decide the question which is the true date of that eclipse which is said to have been predicted by Thales,—an investigation which I have every reason to believe is in the hands of more than one able inquirer,—allow me to offer some observations, drawn from history, tending to show how highly improbable it is that the eclipse of the year B.C. 610, which has been so positively fixed upon by Ideler and other chronologists, can be that which was foretold by the Milesian philosopher. Your readers are aware that the eclipse which Thales computed was made memorable by the fact, that it caused the suspension of a battle between the armies of Cyaxares, king of Media, and Alyattes, king of Lydia, in the sixth year of a war between those two kings. To be consistent, therefore, with history, it is indispensable that the eclipse selected should be found to fall in some year not earlier than the sixth year of the reign of Alyattes. Let us inquire what evidence remains with regard to the date of the accession of that king to the throne.

The earliest authority that we meet with is very distinct on this point, and is also an authority of great weight,—viz., the Parian Chronicle, compiled within 300 years after the death of Alyattes. This Chronicle places the first year of the reign of Alyattes in the year B.C. 605. Now, if this date is correct, it is unnecessary to pursue the inquiry any further, for it is conclusive against the eclipse of the year B.C. 610. The correctness of the date, however, is not relied upon by modern chronologists. We have to inquire, therefore, how far it is confirmed by other ancient authority.

There are three ancient authorities which appear to me to support the record of the marble. Sosicrates, quoted by Diogenes Laertius, (life of Periander), tells us that "Periander died 41 years before Croesus, (and) before the 49th Olympiad." "Before Croesus," I take to mean before the time of Croesus, not "before the overthrow of Croesus," as Mr. Clinton would assume. And "before the 49th Olympiad," signifies somewhere in the 48th, which runs from B.C. 588 to 585. Now, supposing Periander to have died in the year B.C. 587, the 41st year from that date inclusive would be B.C. 547, for the accession of Croesus, and, supposing Alyattes to have reigned 57 whole years and say 3 months, before the accession of Croesus, would bring us to the year B.C. 547+57-3=604-3^m, or B.C. 605, for the accession of Alyattes, being the exact year given on the marble. The words of Sosicrates are not very precise, but are thus quite consistent with the Parian Chronicle. Euphorion, quoted by Clemens Alexandrinus (Strom. I.), states that Gyges, king of Lydia, began to reign

in the 18th Olympiad=B.C. 708-5. It is not defined in which of the four years that composed this Olympiad his accession to the throne took place. Counting, however, from the last year of the Olympiad, thirty-eight years for the reign of Gyges, forty-nine years for the reign of Ardyas, and twelve years for the reign of Sadyattes, we come to the year B.C. 606 as that of the accession of Alyattes,—that is to say, within one year of the date recorded on the marble. Again, Pliny records that Candaules, the predecessor of Gyges, died in the 18th Olympiad, which leads to the same conclusion. Up to the time of Pliny, therefore, we may assume that there was no doubt within the limits of one Olympiad as regards the date of the accession of Alyattes to the throne.

It may be remarked, with reference to the Parian Chronicle, that the dates therein recorded are not, like the dates of historians, liable to alteration by the carelessness or incompetence of copyists. Whatever was the opinion of the compiler—which probably was the received opinion of his day—we have it now before us. It is true that in the time of Selden, who deciphered the engraving on the marble, the remains were much mutilated by time. Nevertheless, sufficient traces of the inscription remained, even in the opinion of those who reject the date (see both Hales' and Prideaux's copies of the Chronicle), from which to deduce the year B.C. 605 as that of the accession of Alyattes. The compiler, then, it must be supposed by those who reject the authority of the marble, was mistaken in his opinion. Yet surely the best sources of information were then open to him. The island of Paros was not far distant from Lydia, where the chronology of the times of the kings of Lydia was capable probably of being verified. For we must remember that the tombs of the Lydian kings, which were visited by Herodotus, and afterwards by Strabo, and more especially the tomb of Alyattes, which is spoken of by Herodotus as a work of art second to none but the monuments of the Egyptians and Babylonians (L. I. 93), were open to inspection in the time of the compiler of the Chronicle, about the year B.C. 264, and it is not unreasonable to assume that there were inscriptions on those monuments recording events and dates connected with the reigns of the kings they were intended to commemorate. The monument of Alyattes is still visible near the site of ancient Sardis; though in 1825 its stone basement, as Chandler reports, was covered by the mould which had been washed down from above. It is not impossible that the annals of the reign of Alyattes might yet be recovered on clearing away the rubbish which envelopes his tomb.

Let us next refer to the authority of Eusebius, who wrote in the fourth century after Christ. Eusebius (see Armenian copy), who has taken upon himself to strike off eight years of the reign of Alyattes, has not ventured to impugn the authority upon which those before him had placed the time of his accession to the throne. For, though he places the time in the year B.C. 609, it is evident that he arrives at his conclusion by counting from the first year of Gyges, and placing that year in the first of the 18th Olympiad instead of the last:—thus placing the accession of Alyattes four years higher than the Parian Chronicle. But, whether the true date be B.C. 609, with Eusebius, or B.C. 605, with the Chronicle, either is conclusive against the possibility of the eclipse having taken place in the year B.C. 610.

Modern chronologists have raised the date of the first of Alyattes to B.C. 617. But even this date will not allow of the eclipse having happened in B.C. 610 consistently with history. For thus it would have fallen in the eighth year of the king's reign. Now, Herodotus tells us that the first six years of Alyattes were occupied in war against the Milesians. There is not the slightest intimation that the war with the Medes was carried on at the same time as that against Milesians. And if they were carried on separately, it is clear, since each war occupied six years, that the eclipse cannot be placed earlier than the twelfth year of the reign. I will not dwell upon the fact that Alyattes had a daughter at the time of the eclipse old enough to be married to Astyages, and yet lived at least till

the year B.C. 560. But passing over this, and also the youth of Thales at the time he made his computation, if in the year B.C. 610, I think I have sufficiently shown how highly improbable it is that the eclipse of that year could have been that predicted by Thales. And I venture to uphold the general accuracy and consistency of history on this point, in opposition to the results hitherto derived from astronomy; considering how confessedly imperfect have been the Lunar tables upon which astronomers have founded their calculations.

I am, &c. J. W. BOSANQUET.

MADAME IDA PFEIFFER IN AFRICA.

WE have received from Mr. Petermann the following interesting communication respecting the whereabouts and plans of a lady whose singular adventures we were the first to bring under the notice of English readers when an account of them originally appeared in German:—and we gladly give it insertion, in order that we may call the attention of those whom we were able to interest in the history of this remarkable woman—and who may have faith in the good which her characteristic energy and perseverance might effect just now in the new field which she has chosen for her wanderings—to that lack of pecuniary resources by which her intentions are defeated and the good may be lost.

The remarkable adventures of Madame Pfeiffer having first been communicated to the English public in your columns, I hope that the following lines may be of some interest to your readers.

Madame Pfeiffer came to London last April with the intention of undertaking a fresh journey:—her love of travelling appearing not only unabated, but even augmented by the success of her journey round the world. She had planned as her fourth undertaking a journey to some of those portions of the globe which she had not yet visited;—namely, Australia and the islands of the Asiatic Archipelago,—intending to proceed thither by the usual route round the Cape. Her purpose was, however, changed while in London. The recently discovered Lake Ngami in Southern Africa, and the interesting region to the North towards the Equator—the reflection how successfully she had travelled among savage tribes where armed men hesitated to penetrate, how well she had borne alike the cold of Iceland and the heat of Babylonia—and lastly, the suggestion that she might be destined to raise the veil from some of the totally unknown portions of the interior of Africa—made her determine on stopping at the Cape, and trying to proceed thence, if possible, northwards into the Equatorial regions of the African Continent.

Madame Pfeiffer left for the Cape on the 22nd of May last in a sailing vessel:—her usual mode of travelling by sea, steamboats being too expensive. She arrived safely at Cape Town on the 11th of August:—as I learned from a letter which I received from her last week, dated the 20th of August. From that letter the following are extracts:—

"The impression which this place [Cape Town] made on me, was not an agreeable one. The mountains surrounding the town are bare, the town itself—London being still fresh in my recollection—resembles a village. The houses are of only one story, with terraces instead of roofs. From the deck of the vessel a single tree was visible, standing on a hill. In short, on my arrival I was at once much disappointed, and this disappointment rather increases than otherwise. In the town the European mode of living is entirely prevalent,—more so than in any other place abroad that I have seen. I have made a good many inquiries as to travelling into the interior; and have been throughout assured that the natives are everywhere kindly disposed to travellers, and that as a woman I should be able to penetrate much farther than a man,—and I have been strongly advised to undertake a journey as far as the unknown lakes, and even beyond. Still, with all these splendid prospects and hopes, I fear I shall travel less in this country than in any other. Here, the first thing you are told is, that you must purchase waggons, oxen, horses, asses,—hire

expensive guides, &c. &c. How far should I reach in this way with my 100l. sterling? I will give you an example of the charges in this country:—for the carriage of my little luggage to my lodgings I had to pay 10s. 6d.! I had previously landed in what I thought the most expensive places in the world—London, Calcutta, Canton, &c.,—had everywhere a much greater distance to go from the vessel to my lodgings,—and nowhere had I paid half of what they charged me here. Board and lodging I have also found very dear. Fortunately, I have been very kindly received into the house of Mr. Thawitzter, the Hamburg Consul,—where I live very agreeably, but do not much advance the object which brought me here. I shall in the course of the month undertake a short journey with some Dutch boers to Klein Williams; and I fear that this will form the beginning and the end of my travels in this country."

From these extracts it will be seen that the resolute Lady has at her command but very slender means for the performance of her journeys. The sum of 100l., which was granted to her by the Austrian Government, forms the whole of her funds. Private resources she has none. It took her twenty years (!) to save enough money to perform her first journey,—namely, that to the Holy Land. While in London she received scarcely any encouragement; and her works were not appreciated by the public, or indeed known save through your means, till she had left this country. It is to be regretted that the want of a little pecuniary assistance should deter the enterprising Lady from carrying out her projected journey in Southern Africa. Though not a scientific traveller, she is a faithful recorder of what she sees and hears,—and she is prepared to note the bearings and distances of the journey, make meteorological observations, and keep a careful diary: so that, the results of her projected journey would perhaps be of as much interest as those of other travellers of greater pretensions.

AUGUSTUS PETERMANN.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH'S 'DISCOVERY OF GUIANA.'

I am bound to acknowledge at once, and thankfully, the error pointed out by Sir R. H. Schomburgk in one of my papers on Sir Walter Raleigh read during the last season before the Society of Antiquaries. I did not advert to the reprint of 'The Discovery of Guiana' edited by Sir R. H. Schomburgk for the Hakluyt Society. The fact is, that it did not fall in my way for any useful purpose until after my papers were prepared and read.* I spoke of the reprints by Cayley and Birch, and since their time by the Clarendon Press. Not very long afterwards I found out the mistake myself; and I intended, in consequence, to alter the text of my paper, and to state, in a note, that the editor of the reprint for the Hakluyt Society had anticipated me in pointing out that there were two impressions of 'The Discovery of Guiana' in 1596. My communications to the Society of Antiquaries are not yet printed, so that I am quite in time to do that justice to Sir R. H. Schomburgk to which he has an unquestionable right. I shall have occasion to send one or two more papers on the same subject during the present season; but I may be allowed to add, that I do not at all profess to furnish a new biographical account of Sir Walter Raleigh,—but merely to supply some deficiencies in the lives of him already published, from sources either entirely new or not hitherto sufficiently examined. I have yet met with nothing to clear up the curious point raised by Sir R. H. Schomburgk respecting the daughter of Sir Walter Raleigh.

Although Sir R. H. Schomburgk mentions the fact of the two impressions of 'The Discovery of Guiana' in 1596, he does not advert to the important inference to be drawn from it; and he terms the typographical differences between the two "trifling." They are, in truth, some hundred in number; and are not "trifling," if on no other account than because they prove incontestably that

* When I removed into the country, I was unable to bring more than a third part of my books with me; and the publications of the Hakluyt Society were unobtainable among those sent to the Panthecon. I have since procured another set.

Raleigh did not leave the republication to the care, or rather to the carelessness, of the old printer (Robinson), but that every sheet was corrected by his own hand. Such could not have been the case with the original edition,—and it gives value to the early reprint.

J. PAYNE COLLIER.

Maidenhead, Dec. 1.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE coming book season promises to be of more than usual interest and fertility. Last year the public were too much engrossed with the approaching jubilee of science and industry to pay due attention to the creations of literature,—and the winter season was consequently rather barren in works of consequence. Besides a probable continuation of Mr. Macaulay's 'History of England,' we have the announcement already made of two more volumes of Mr. Grote's 'History of Greece,'—and of an addition, embracing the opening years of the American War of Independence, to Lord Mahon's 'History of England.' In the department of more special histories, we shall have 'The Grenville Papers,' being the correspondence of Lord Temple and George Grenville with their friends and contemporaries,—Capt. Devereux's Lives of the Earls of Essex, from the time of Henry the Eighth to that of Cromwell, founded, as is said, on letters and papers chiefly unpublished,—and 'The Lord Chancellor Clarendon, with Lives of his Friends and Contemporaries.'—The department of biography promises to be rich in materials. Early in the season Mr. Hepworth Dixon will bring out 'Robert Blake, Admiral and General of the English Forces at Sea—a contribution to the History of the Commonwealth,' based, as we understand, almost entirely on original documents.—Mrs. Bray announces a 'Life of Stothard, with Illustrations of his chief Works,'—Mr. Disraeli is engaged in preparing for the press a Life of the late Lord George Bentinck, "a Political Biography,"—'The Life and Letters of Niebuhr' is advertised by Messrs. Chapman & Hall; the volumes to be enriched with essays by the Chevalier Bunsen—at one period secretary to the great critic—and M.M. Brandis and Löbel,—and we hear that Lord Cockburn is writing a Life of the late Lord Jeffrey, in which will be incorporated his correspondence by Byron and other departed greatnesses.—We notice, too, that a new edition of the works of Dr. Isaac Barrow, "enlarged with materials hitherto unpublished," is in course of preparation for the Syndics of the University of Cambridge.—A new octavo edition of the 'Life of Ormonde' is about to proceed from the University Press.—Similar activity is visible in the fields of lighter literature. Mr. Charles Dickens announces a new serial,—Mr. Thackeray is preparing to publish a new novel in the orthodox form of three volumes,—and Mr. Douglas Jerrold is understood to have a new serial in hand. The most voracious of literary gourmands will confess that this is not a bad bill of fare for the Christmas season.

The supplemental charter applied for by the Royal Commissioners for the Great Exhibition, to enable them to dispose of the surplus in their hands, has been issued.

We continue to receive a great variety of communications expressing sympathy with the view which our duty has compelled us to take of the painful and wholly unexplained case of the Baroness Von Beck:—and the characters of these communications, together with the quarters from which they come, lead us to hope that the gloomy silence in which the parties implicated have taken shelter from our inquiry will yet be broken at the bidding of some authority sufficient for the purpose.—"The men," says one who addresses us from Lincoln's Inn Fields, as interpreter of the feelings of a large body of friends, "who took the leading part in this prosecution, or persecution, one would naturally suppose to have possessed, and still to possess, proofs of the crime which they charged against their victim. If their object was to expose a literary fraud, where is the necessity for the deep mysterious silence which they maintain! Why are the proofs kept back from the public? Why, indeed, does not the public insist on its right to have laid before it the proofs of that guilt the imputa-

tion of which brought the unfortunate woman charged with it before one of the public tribunals of justice, and thence to the grave?"—A barrister, who states himself to be of old standing, writes to complain that "the honour of his order is affected by the unprecedented conduct of Mr. Toulmin Smith":—and another asks why that gentleman is not called on to give some explanation to his governing body—that is, to the Benchers of his Inn—of the extraordinary use made by him of the professional character with which they had invested him.—A correspondent of a very different kind gives us a dim hint, from personal knowledge, of some of the springs that seem to have set this terrible intrigue in motion:—and another furnishes a most curious comment on Mr. Toulmin Smith's proceedings in this case, which it will probably be worth while some day to lay before our readers.—We repeat, we cannot think that, in the face of an interest in the subject such as we hear everywhere expressed, a self-attributed irresponsibility like that assumed by the parties to the strange and fatal proceedings in question can finally be maintained.

The daily papers announce the death, at Boulogne, on the 27th of November, of Basil Montagu, Q.C., the learned editor of Lord Bacon—but to be known hereafter more enduringly as the friend of Coleridge. Mr. Montagu was the son of Lord Sandwich (Jimmy Twitche) by the unfortunate Miss Ray, killed in the Piazza of Covent Garden, in the year 1779, in a fit of frantic jealousy by the Rev. Mr. Hackman. The murder has been commemorated in a Grub Street Ballad, which Sir Walter Scott was fond of quoting.—

A Sandwich favourite was this fair,
And her he dearly lov'd;
By whom six children had, we hear;
This story fatal prov'd.

A clergyman, O wicked one,
In Covent Garden shot her;
No time to cry upon her God,
It's hop'd He's not forgot her.

Mr. Montagu was a member of Gray's Inn; and is said to have selected that Inn of Court from his early idolatry (such we may truly call it) for the works and even character of Lord Bacon. He was called to the Bar in 1798;—but never distinguished himself either on circuit or in Westminster Hall. In conversation he was argumentative, yet cool; and on most occasions was a listener after Coleridge's own heart. As a writer he has but slender merit. His 'Life of Bacon' is not distinguished by any beauties of style, any particular grasp of thought, or any great novelty of research; and his edition of Bacon's works is, it is said, about to be superseded by an edition from other hands. His knowledge of our early literature was extensive; and his volumes of selections from Taylor, Barrow and others were made with taste and learning.—He was in his 82nd year.

"Amongst the useful and benevolent who have departed," says the *Manchester Examiner and Times*, "we have this day to number the scientific and philanthropic Peter Clare,—a gentleman extensively known and highly respected. He was in the seventy-first year of his age. Mr. Clare was for many years secretary of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, and subsequently the vice-president. He was an intimate friend of Dr. Dalton, whom he constantly attended during his last illness,—and was appointed one of his executors. Mr. Clare was well acquainted with the meteorological investigations of Dr. Dalton; and after his death, continued the observations which he had commenced."

The French papers report the death, in Paris, of an eminent physician, Dr. Honoré, a member of the Academy of Medicine.

The case pending between the Commissioners of Inland Revenue and the proprietors of the *Household Narrative of Current Events* has been decided in favour of the latter. Three of the four Judges decided against the inference that the *Household Narrative* is a newspaper within the terms of the statute:—Baron Parke being the dissentient. This decision sets a multitude of uncertainties as regards what has been already ventured at rest; but it is generally understood that the reform bill

to be introduced next session will regulate all such matters on a new basis.

At the last meeting of the British Association at Ipswich, a resolution was passed calling for a Report "on the best means of selecting and arranging a series of typical Objects illustrative of the three Kingdoms of Nature for Provincial Museums." The good to be effected by such a Report will be obvious to all who have had anything to do with the arrangement of museums. In our collections of natural history objects are often got together without any thought as to how they shall be rendered instructive to those who look at them. The call for this report originated with Prof. Henslow,—who is the present President of the Ipswich Museum; and he has just published a short account of an attempt made under his direction to arrange a series of typical objects illustrative of geology in this institution. In this account he says—"The illustrations already arranged carry us back (in a retrograde sequence) no further than to the commencement of the Tertiary epoch. Some of these illustrations refer to the effects produced by causes still in operation, or which have operated within the last 100 years, 1,000 years, 2,000 years and 4,000 years." In addition to specimens, small woodcuts, models and diagrams have been made use of; so that this portion of the Museum is made to tell an instructive history, which is so much better than that told in a book as it is illustrated by specimens of real objects. Prof. Henslow is anxious to receive hints from all persons engaged in natural history pursuits as to the best specimens to carry out his object of illustrating the various divisions of animals, plants and minerals. Those who are interested in this subject will have an opportunity of examining the Ipswich specimens to advantage at the next Anniversary of the Museum,—which will be held on the 17th of the present month. Although the Report called for modestly speaks of Provincial Museums, we feel convinced that the idea suggested is one that might be most satisfactorily worked out in our metropolitan institutions. Surely it would not be beneath the dignity of the British Museum or of its officers that one of their rooms should be devoted to a series such as that proposed by Prof. Henslow.

The Corporation of London is just now making an effort to appear well before the public. It is talking largely of city improvements. It is building new streets, and discussing a proposition for a City railway. It has formally acknowledged the want of public baths and waiting-rooms. It has even admitted that the streets are narrow—the open spaces few and far between,—that there is hardly room to breathe or move between the Temple and the Tower. These confessions, applicable to the City generally, are especially applicable to the region about St. Paul's. The purlieus of Newgate, the recesses about Doctors' Commons, the almost impenetrable alleys behind Paternoster-row, close that structure round on every side. A little space at the west front, miserably insufficient as it is as the foreground to an edifice of such altitude and grandeur—is cut off, as everybody knows, by an ugly iron railing, from men who are compelled to live and move about it.—Mr. Barber, we see, has at last carried the motion for an application to the Dean and Chapter to remove this railing which had been before formally made and lost in the Common Council.

The *Times* states that there is an intention among our Arctic officers "to propose a national testimonial to Mr. Grinnell, for his noble and humane conduct in fitting out, at his private expense, the expedition which sailed last year from the United States in search of Sir John Franklin, under the command of Lieut. De Haven."

The following is from a Correspondent:—and is suggestive of a large amount of moral salvage which might be effected if the more favoured portion of society would but read in an earnest spirit the duties that are plainly written up at their doors.—"In a short street in St. Giles's there are upwards of five hundred men herded together in the nightly lodging-houses. In the evenings of the week-day, and on the whole of Sunday, they are to be found in groups in the kitchens, or rather cellars,

of these houses—and I need hardly say how much time is spent.—For some months past they have been visited by gentlemen, who have distributed to them gratuitously periodical publications suited to their capacity and supplying wholesome literary food. So thankful have the men been for this mark of attention, that it was determined to carry the matter further by opening a reading-room for their use. On Tuesday evening last a meeting was convened in the Neal's Yard School Room, Seven Dials, that the men might see the room, and express their own views as to the plan proposed to be adopted. Upwards of seventy men were in attendance, and the Rev. William Brock, of Bloomsbury Chapel, presided.—The plan was explained by the chairman, and the men were asked to speak freely their minds. The result was, the passing of the following resolutions:—'That the Neal's Yard School be opened as a reading-room for the use of the occupiers of the Kitchens of this Neighbourhood.—That a charge of one penny per week be made to each man by way of membership; but if paid for six weeks in succession, the amount to be placed to his credit in a penny bank to be established.—That the room be opened on week nights from 6 to 10 o'clock, and on Sundays from 2 o'clock till 9.'

The Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge has just announced as the subject of the Le Bas Prize—founded with a view to promote the study of the history, institutions and interests of our Anglo-Indian empire.—'A View of the Routes successively taken by the Commerce between Europe and the East, and of the Political Effects produced by the several changes.' Candidates for the prize must be Bachelors of Arts under the standing of M.A.,—or students in Civil Law or Medicine of not less than four or more than seven years' standing, not being graduates in either faculty, but having kept the exercises necessary for the degree of Bachelor of Law or of Medicine. The essays must be sent in to the Vice-Chancellor before the end of Easter Term 1852,—each bearing some motto, and accompanied by a sealed paper bearing the same motto and enclosing the name of the candidate and that of his college. We may add, as making the money prize—rather under 60l.—hardly a prize at all, that the successful candidate is required to publish the essay at his own expense.

On Wednesday in next week a Conference of parties interested in the great social and moral problem of juvenile crime will be held in Birmingham. This, if we mistake not, is the first attempt made in this country to bring the men theoretically and practically acquainted with a subject which we have for many years pressed on the consideration of our readers together for the purpose of discussion. Abroad there have been many such meetings. America has set a noble example to Europe in the attention paid to this profoundly interesting question. There, science and humane sentiment are organized in the service of society,—the treatment of incipient crime has its own literary organs,—and its promoters sit in frequent congresses. At Frankfurt and in Brussels conferences on prison discipline have been held. But this country,—though it was Howard who gave the first impulse to such a reform in Europe—has hitherto made no public demonstration of its interest in such matters. Yet no problem of this age is of more signal importance:—the moral life of the State being concerned in its solution.—The object of the approaching Conference is,—to collect and organize opinion in, for this purpose, influential quarters, with a view to a strong joint representation being made at once to the ministers of the Crown. That the present treatment of juvenile crime is defective, there can be no doubt:—but the great point is, to discover a mode in which the heirs of crime may be relieved from their fatal inheritance. This subject the Conference will discuss. We shall watch their proceedings with more than ordinary interest; for, as our readers know, there are few subjects on which we have laboured in our sphere so long and earnestly.

Letters from Berlin of the 25th ult. announce the arrival of Lieut. Pim in that capital,—and his departure for St. Petersburg. The gallant officer

was introduced by Baron Humboldt to the King, and dined with His Majesty at Potsdam. The King expressed great interest in the object of Lieut. Pim's expedition, and furnished him with letters to the Emperor of Russia.

"When the department of the Ministry of Public Instruction was created four or five years ago in Constantinople," says a Correspondent, "it became apparent that there existed a great desideratum of Moslem civilization, necessary to be supplied as soon as possible:—a Turkish Vocabulary and a Turkish Grammar compiled according to the high development of modern philology. The Grammar has now been published; being compiled by Fuad Effendi, *mutesher* of the Grand Vizer—a man known for his high attainments,—assisted by Ahmed Djavid Effendi, another member of the Council of Instruction. The work has been printed at Constantinople by Mr. Churchill, and is to be had through the usual channels of the booksellers. Translations will be made into several languages:—the French edition being now in preparation by two gentlemen belonging to the Foreign Office of the Sublime Porte, who have obtained a privilege of ten years for its sale."

The Scientific Expedition which, as our readers may remember, set out from Copenhagen at the beginning of last June for Greenland, with a view to examining into the mineralogical wealth of the great chain of hills which divides that country throughout its entire length has, it is reported from Denmark, already met with encouragement towards the prosecution of its researches. On the very first breaking ground in the mountains neighbouring the Danish colony of Julianehaab, the party came on copper formations, lying close to the surface, branching away in three several directions, and appearing to have great depth and great horizontal extent. The engineers placed at the head of this Expedition are sanguine, from the great analogy observable between the conformation of the Ural Mountains and that of the hills of Greenland, in their expectation of finding in the latter mines of gold, of platina, and perhaps of silver.

The friends of the Ocean Penny Postage project, says Mr. Elihu Burritt, will be pleased to learn, that simultaneous and energetic steps will be taken in Great Britain and in the United States to press it upon the consideration of the two Governments during the next sessions of Parliament and of the United States Congress. "The late reduction of the inland postage to a uniform rate of three-halfpence throughout the American Union has facilitated the establishment of an ocean penny postage between that country and Great Britain; and a lively interest is already excited on that side of the Atlantic in behalf of a measure which would so invaluably promote the commerce and correspondence between the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon family. Mr. Barnabas Bates, the Rowland Hill of America, to whose indefatigable exertions the country is chiefly indebted for the blessings of cheap inland postage, will give his experienced talent to the work of pressing the United States Government, by the force of public opinion, to the necessary steps for realizing this ocean postal reform."—"There is every probability," Mr. Burritt says, "that the United States Government will be prepared to meet in a cordial and liberal spirit any advance on the part of the British Government towards this great object. In Great Britain the necessity and feasibility of this important measure, and the vast and countless benefits which it would confer on the world, are coming to be more fully seen, felt, and appreciated,—not only by the relations and friends of the hundreds of thousands who are emigrating yearly from these islands to America and other regions of the globe, but also by the great and influential commercial communities and associations of the Kingdom. The Chambers of Commerce in Manchester and Liverpool have resolved to memorialize Parliament in favour of the measure during the approaching session. Steps are being taken to secure, it is hoped, a thousand petitions from different towns or communities, to that body; and public meetings are to be held to interest all classes in the project."—"The Society of Arts, it should be added, have also taken up the subject of an ocean penny post-

age. The ocean penny post once established between this country and the United States, it would soon, as Mr. Burritt says, follow in all other directions.

NOW OPEN.—SKETCHES AND DRAWINGS, at the Gallery of the Old Water Colour Society, 5, Pall Mall East, comprising, amongst other important works, CHOICE SPECIMENS by Turner, R.A., Mulready, R.A., Roberts, R.A., Stanfield, R.A., Webster, R.A., Leighton, R.A., Hart, R.A., Crewick, R.A., John Martin, K.L., Copley Fielding, Calverton, John Lewis, Ridd, A.R.A., Ward, A.R.A., Egg, A.R.A., Leitch, Topham, Hunt, Holland, Lane, Deane, Deane, Goodall, &c. Open daily from Ten till dusk.—Admission, 1s. SAMUEL STEPNEY, Sec. Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street.—The Diorama of the OVERLAND MAIL to INDIA, showing Southampton Docks, Cistna, the Tagna, Tarifa, Gibraltar, Algiers, Malta, Alexandria, Cairo, Suez, the Red Sea, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, and the magnificent Mausoleum, "The Taj Mahal," the exterior by moonlight, the beautiful gateway, and gorgeous interior,—immediately preceded by the CRYSTAL PALACE as a WINTER GARDEN,—is exhibited daily, at Three and Eight o'clock.—Admission, 1s. 2d. and 3d.—Doors open half-an-hour before each representation.

RE-OPENING OF THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION ON MONDAY, December 6, 1850.—A POPULAR LECTURE ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY, daily, at Two o'clock, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., in addition to other LECTURES ON CHEMISTRY.—PRIZE MODEL OF MR. MECH'S FARMERY at TITREE HALL explained.—A NEW LECTURE ON THE HISTORY OF THE HARP, by J. P. Chatterton, Esq., for Two Weeks only, at Eight in the Evening, with illustrations on EMBROIDERY, FASHION, TION HARP, and Vocal Accompaniment by Miss Blanche Young.—LECTURE by Dr. Bachofner on the PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, on MONDAY, 12th Dec. 1850, arranged expressly for the instruction and amusement of the Junior Branches visiting the Institution during the holidays.—NUMEROUS PRIZE MODELS OF WORKS OF ART, &c. from the Great Exhibition will be explained by Mr. Crisp.—OPTICAL EFFECTS IN DISSOLVING VIEWS.—PHYSIOSCOPE, OPTIC MICROSCOPE, CHROMOGRAPH, &c.—DIVER AND DIVING BELLS, &c.—Admission, 1s. Schools and Children under ten years of age, Half-price.—Open daily from Eleven till Five, and every evening, except Saturday, from Seven till half-past Ten.

SCIENTIFIC

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Dec. 1.—The Anniversary Meeting was held this day:—the Earl of Rosse, President, in the chair. His Lordship delivered his annual address; after which the Copley medal was awarded to Prof. Owen, for his important discoveries in comparative anatomy and paleontology, contained in the 'Philosophical Transactions,'—one of the Royal medals to the Earl of Rosse, for his 'Observations on the Nebulae,' published in the 'Philosophical Transactions,'—and the Second Royal medal to G. Newport, Esq., for his paper 'On the Impregnation of the Ovum in the Amphibia,' also published in the 'Philosophical Transactions.'—The Society then proceeded to the election of its Council and officers; and the following noblemen and gentlemen were declared elected.—President, the Earl of Rosse; *Treasurer*, Lieut.-Col. E. Sabine; *Secretaries*, S. H. Christie and T. Bell, Esqs.; *Foreign Secretary*, Capt. W. H. Smyth, R.N.; other *Members of the Council*, W. Bowman, Esq.; B. C. Brodie, Esq.; C. Brooke, Esq.; The Rev. Prof. Challis, W. Clark, M.D.; C. G. B. Dawbney, M.D.; Sir P. de Malpas Grey Egerton, *The Dean of Ely*, J. P. Gassiot, Esq.; Marshall Hall, M.D.; Sir J. F. W. Herschel, Prof. W. H. Miller, Lieut.-Col. Portlock, R.E., E. Solly, Esq.; W. Spence, Esq.; and N. Wallich, M.D.—The names of new Members of the Council are printed in italics.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Nov. 24.—Sir Woodbine Parish, V.P., in the chair.—Among donations presented to the library since the preceding Meeting, the Chairman directed attention to the magnificent present of maps and charts from Field Marshal de Scribanek, of Vienna:—to whom a special vote of thanks was passed,—and he was elected by acclamation an Honorary Member. Don Pascual Madaz, of Madrid, the author of the great 'Diccionario Geografico-Estadistico-Historico de España y sus Posesiones de Ultramar,' was elected a Corresponding Member; and Sir W. Molesworth, Capt. W. Ramsay, R.N., J. Ewing, Esq., E. J. Harrington, Esq., the Rev. S. Clark, W. W. Bird, Esq., Lieut. B. C. Pim, R.N., Dr. B. Bynol, Dr. W. F. Daniell, R. M. Fox, Esq., Capt. R. Strachey, and W. Blackett, Esq., were elected Fellows.—The Secretary read the correspondence between Sir R. I. Murchison, as President of the Society, and the Imperial Geographical authorities of Russia, respecting the Expeditions of Dr. Wallin to Arabia and of Lieut. Pim to Siberia; and mentioned that several applications

had been made even from foreign officers to accompany Lieut. Pim. All these had been declined:—it having been resolved to intrust the arrangements of the Expedition as far as possible to the Russian authorities.—The thanks of the Society were voted to the President for having so successfully devoted his best energies to the carrying out of Lieut. Pim's project,—and to Lord John Russell for his compliance with the request of the Council by the immediate grant of 500*l.* towards the Expedition and for the handsome manner in which his Lordship had conveyed his assent.

The paper read was, 'Notes on the late Geographical Discoveries in the Arctic Regions,' by Capt. E. Ommanney, R.N.—The substance of this paper having already appeared in our columns, it is unnecessary that we should here give any abstract of its historical portion. We observe, however, that Capt. Ommanney has taken occasion to draw a very gloomy picture of the hardships to which his Expedition was exposed. No one, we fancy, ever supposed that Arctic exploration was unattended with much labour; but we do not find the officers who preceded Capt. Ommanney or his coadjutors in the search for the missing Expedition along the coast of North America talking of their difficulties as anything uncommon. Capt. Ommanney alludes in one instance to the cold as having been intolerable, and conceives that the climate of the Arctic regions which he traversed must have altered considerably. He is led to this conclusion by having met on the coast of North Devon with thickly-scattered traces of Esquimaux settlements, having graves of a superior kind covered with flat slabs of masonry,—thus evidencing that there must have been a supply at that period of animal food; whereas he states that at present it would be utterly impossible for a man to kill in the course of two months animals sufficient to support him during the remaining ten. This remark, happily, is of little consequence in connexion with the missing Expedition:—as we know that it is *not* on the coast of North Devon, and that it probably is in a part of the Arctic regions abounding with animal life.

Lieut. Osborne, who commanded one of the Screw Steamers attached to Capt. Austin's Expedition, having been called on by the chairman, took a much more cheerful view of the case, and entirely repudiated the idea that Sir John Franklin had turned homeward after wintering in Wellington Channel, and been wrecked in Baffin's Bay.—He stated that he had received a letter from his friend Lieut. Halkett, mentioning that he had heard in Paris from M. Bonet, a distinguished officer in the French Navy, who was in London at the period of Sir John Franklin's departure, that he was assured by Lieut. Fairholm—who is attached to Franklin's Expedition—that he and all the officers of the Expedition looked forward to the possibility of spending six years in the Arctic Seas.—Lieut. Osborne believed that Sir John Franklin having searched the entrance to Wellington Channel, had entered on the exploration of its shores with the determination to make his way by it as far to the northward as he could.—In Barrow's Straits and Wellington Channel he had observed signs which to his mind seemed to go far towards proving the existence of a northern basin, or Polar Sea. Three months before Capt. Austin's ships were enabled to leave their winter quarters, Capt. Penny and his officers discovered to the north an open and angry sea. He had seen enormous numbers of whales in September 1850, running southwards from under the ice of Wellington Channel; and as these animals cannot exist in a frozen sea, it was evident that they had been in open water, and were running to open water, having merely passed under a barrier of ice in Wellington Channel, as they have to do earlier in the season in Davis's Strait to reach the open water in Lancaster Sound. The flights of ducks and geese which were observed flying from the north in 1850 presented additional evidence that open water existed to the north, and that they had found an unfrozen sea, which furnished food. All their experience tended to prove a higher temperature to the north, and that vast numbers of

animals inhabited that part of the Arctic regions. The tides, in his opinion, strongly demonstrate the existence of a polar basin; for while the Atlantic supplies the great tidal wave for Baffin's Bay and Lancaster Sound, Barrow's Straits are fed by a tidal wave from an opposite direction. In conclusion, he expressed his conviction that Sir John Franklin had reached a very high latitude in that sea.—Sir E. Belcher quite agreed with Lieut. Osborne that there was little reason to doubt that Franklin had gone up Wellington Channel. With regard to the whales, the probability was, that they sought the salmon fry up Wellington Channel, and then came out round Cockburn Island, on the north-west coast of which salmon were so abundant that they were taken with the hand.—The Chairman said, everything pointed clearly to Wellington Channel. He was now encouraged to hope that Sir John Franklin was still living.

The 26th volume of the Society's Journal was announced to be ready for the next meeting on the 8th of December.

GEOLOGICAL.—Nov. 19.—Prof. E. Forbes, V.P., in the chair.—Dr. J. Percy and S. Benson, Esq., were elected Fellows.—The following communication was read:—'On the Granitic Blocks of the South Highlands of Scotland,' by W. Hopkins, Esq.—The principal object of the author was, to trace the granite blocks scattered on the north of the Clyde, along the shores of Loch Lomond, Loch Long and Loch Fine, and those on the shores of Loch Etive and Loch Awe, to their respective origins. The latter were immediately traceable to the central mass of granite in the group of mountains, of which Ben Cruachan is the chief, extending from the Pass of Awe northward to Glencoe. The upper part of Loch Etive penetrates this granitic nucleus, whence the blocks have been transported to the neighbourhood of Oban in great numbers. The valley of Glenray penetrates the granite mass on the east, and along this valley the blocks have been conveyed to the head of Loch Awe. On the north of Loch Long, and separated from Ben Lomond on the east by the upper part of Loch Lomond, is an important group of mountains, comprising the Cobbler, Ben Nime, Ben Vorlich, Ben Loy, &c., which has also its central granitic nucleus. A valley from the head of Loch Long and small lateral valleys of steep ascent from Loch Lomond penetrate the mass of granite in the east, and have afforded means of transport for blocks down to these lakes respectively. On the west it is in like manner penetrated by Glen Fine, along which numerous blocks have been transported to the head of Loch Fine. It was our previous ignorance of the existence of this granitic nucleus that created the great apparent difficulty of accounting for the presence of the erratic blocks on the shores of these lakes and along the Clyde.—The author entered into some discussion of theoretical views respecting the different agencies by which these blocks may have been transported to the localities which they now occupy.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Nov. 27.—Capt. W. H. Smyth, V.P., in the chair.—Lord Londesborough handed in a letter he had received from Mr. R. Smith, communicating the discovery of a Roman Bridge at Grimston, near Tadcaster, on his lordship's estate. The bridge has been long well known; but it is only recently that indubitable marks of Roman construction have been pointed out,—among them the mason's marks still remaining on some of the largest stones. Mr. Smith's letter was accompanied by drawings strongly confirming his view of the subject:—which produced a good deal of discussion between Lord Londesborough, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Wright, Mr. Smith, the chairman, and others, on an incidental point raised by Lord Londesborough,—viz. whether there were any really Roman remains at Godmonham, a place mentioned nearly by that name by the Venerable Bede, and the scene of some remarkable historical incidents. Mr. Hunter was of opinion that the relics of edifices there were anterior to Saxon times; while Mr. R. Smith, from such examination as he had lately made, was decidedly inclined to think that they were even later than

the period of the Norman Conquest. The Vice President hoped that this discrepancy of opinion would be settled by a more detailed examination; and the noble owner of the property was understood to express himself ready in every way to aid in the accomplishment of the object.—Mr. Botfield transmitted a few large beads of amber of very great antiquity—belonging in fact to the British, or rather Celtic period—which had been found under basaltic soil in Staffordshire, where they had remained hidden for many centuries. They attracted much notice:—all present agreeing that they were probably anterior to anything of the kind yet brought to light.—Sir G. Musgrave presented impressions and wood-blocks of what must have been in use prior to any known horn-book,—consisting of an alphabet engraved backwards upon hone-stone, and meant for striking of impressions in lead, or perhaps clay, for the instruction of those who wished to learn to read. The form of the letters indicated, we think, that it was not quite so old as the owner appeared to imagine. It had been found in pulling down an old wall of Sir G. Musgrave's mansion in Cumberland.—Mr. Wylie exhibited some additional Anglo-Saxon remains from the neighbourhood of Fairford;—but they did not possess any striking novelty.—An invitation was read from the chair to any members of the Society who could attend a meeting, in February next, in Paris, of men of science and research from various countries of Europe, under the presidency of M. Caumont of Normandy.

INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.—Dec. 1.—Mr. Hardwick, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. C. B. Allen read a paper 'On the Formation of a School of Art for Artist Workmen, and the establishment of a Museum of Medieval Art.' The author dwelt on the importance of artistic knowledge to workmen engaged in carrying out the designs of the architect, so far as regards its practical application to their respective trades as masons, carvers, smiths, &c. By reference to the decorative architectural details of ancient and modern edifices, he showed the artistic inferiority of the workmen of the present time; and proceeded to prove that the Government Schools of Design were not calculated to supply the wants of architects in this respect. Mr. Allen proposed the formation of a school in which the workman should be practically taught the application of Art to his trade, in all the different stages of its execution. He also enforced the necessity of a museum of architectural ornaments and other details, as of the greatest possible importance. The views of the author were adopted by most of the speakers in the discussion which followed,—although some doubt was expressed as to the entire practicability of his proposed mode of instruction. The intended collection of Medieval Antiquities in the British Museum was referred to, with anticipations of much benefit; and the occasion was taken to claim for "the North London School of Drawing and Modelling," which has been for some time in successful operation at Camden Town, the merit due to it as a first attempt to render Art accessible to workmen.

LINNEAN.—Nov. 18.—R. Brown, Esq., in the chair.—A collection of specimens in natural history, which had been exhibited in the Crystal Palace, from Van Diemen's Land, was presented by Dr. Milligan, Secretary to the Royal Society of Van Diemen's Land. The specimens consisted of a large assortment of woods, the produce of Tasmanian trees,—a case of birds,—a specimen of "native bread," the produce of a species of fungus named *Mylitta Australis*,—necklaces made from shells belonging to the genus *Elenchus*,—gum from the *Acacia mucronata*,—Kino, from a species of *Eucalyptus*, and other things.—A letter was read from J. Hogg, Esq. of Stockton-on-Tees, describing the circumstance of a vine producing ripe grapes near that town,—the latitude being 54° 35'.—Mr. White exhibited specimens which he had received from Dr. Gilbert of lead which had been employed for lining a cistern, and which was punctured in many places by a small beetle (*Anobium striatum*). He mentioned other instances of lead having been bored by beetles. In all these cases the object was to escape from confinement; and no

insect fed on lead,—as had been sometimes asserted.—A portion of a paper was read from J. Miers, Esq., 'On two new Genera of Plants.' The first genus described was *Tetraraphis*,—so named from the four long awns to its involucre. This plant belonged to the order *Eriogonaceæ*.—Mr. Marnock presented specimens of the flower and leaf of *Victoria Regia*:—also fruits of the *Cucumis prophetarum* and *Momordica charantia*.

Dec. 2.—W. Yarrell, Esq., in the chair.—Mr. Moore of the Botanic Garden, Chelsea, presented specimens of the stamiferous cones of *Zamia furcata* to the Museum.—Mr. Adam White exhibited two boxes of insects, containing chiefly new or rare species from South America, collected by Messrs. F. Smith and H. W. Bates. In the collection made by the latter gentleman were many species of butterfly, one of the most beautiful of which had been named after him *Galathea Batesi*. In speaking of Mr. Bates, Mr. White said that he had left England in May 1848, and had collected plants and insects in the neighbourhood of Para, and afterwards proceeded up the Amazons, as far as Ega, and had sent home many very valuable collections. He returned to Para in May last, and was now anxious to proceed to investigate the natural history of the branch of the Amazons, known as the Rio Tapajós. He had been much hampered for want of means, but, provided he could obtain resources, he hoped to remain in this district for two or three years. The mouth of the Tapajós, where the town of Santarém is situated, is about 500 miles from Para; the river extends 1,000 or 1,200 miles into the interior of Brazil, to the province of Matto Grosso.—A continuation of Mr. Miers's paper 'On Two New Genera of South American Plants,' was read. The second genus belonged to the order *Bignoniaceæ*. It was a leafless shrubby spinous plant, eight feet high; hence the name proposed for it by the author was that of *Oxycladus aphyllus*. It differs in some material points from the order to which it belongs, and constitutes a sub-order, *Oxycladeæ*.

MICROSCOPICAL.—Nov. 26.—Dr. A. Farre, President, in the chair.—Dr. Carpenter detailed the results of some observations made by Mr. Williamson, of Manchester, on the *Volvox Globator*. He stated, that, startling as the assertion might at first sight appear, Mr. Williamson had come to the conclusion that the *Volvox* belongs not to the animal, but to the vegetable kingdom, and that he himself having gone over the evidence was inclined to concur in this view. The increase of the cells (from the supposed ova) being carried on in a manner precisely analogous to that of undeniable algae, while many of the so-called polygastric animalcules of Ehrenberg having been proved zoospores of some of the confervæ, renders the supposition probable. It appears from Mr. Williamson's observations, that between the outer integument and the primordial cell wall of each cell, a hyaline substance is secreted, causing the outer integument to expand; and as the primordial cell wall is attached to it at various points, it causes the internal colouring matter, or endochrome, to assume a stellate form, the points of one cell being in contact with those of the neighbouring cell:—these points forming at a future period the lines of communication between the green spots so often noticed on the adult *volvox*.—Dr. Carpenter argued that the evident automatic action of the vibratile cilia was also in favour of the vegetable theory; and cited a case in which a cistern that had been recently cleared out, and partially filled by the rain only, had become suddenly and rapidly covered with a bright green scum, which on examination proved to be the cryptomonads of Ehrenberg. The water could have contained nothing in solution, with the exception of probably a little carbon; and Dr. Carpenter thought that the distinction between the animal and vegetable kingdoms could be better defined by having regard to the *nutrition* than by any other mode,—animals requiring *organized* matter for food, while vegetables flourish on inorganic matter, or else organic matter in a state of *decomposition*. The cryptomonads must, therefore, be considered as undoubtedly vegetable; and these were followed by an abundant production of

rotifers, the way having been prepared for the animals by the previous vegetable development.—Mr. Bowerbank rose, not to oppose Dr. Carpenter's view, but to ask some questions in order to elicit further information. Was it an established fact that there were cilia, or was their presence merely inferred from the motion? Was there any discharge of the contents of the primordial cell, and if so, was the contraction sudden or gradual? He had witnessed a similar appearance in the early cells of some of the ferns, in which it was assumed in consequence of the sudden ejection of the contents, and he appealed to Mr. Deane, who had paid much attention to the development of the ferns in the earliest stages.—Mr. Deane stated that he conceived Mr. Bowerbank had misapprehended Dr. Carpenter's statement; as the stellate appearance in the cells of the volvox was owing to the dilation of the outer integument in consequence of the formation of hyaline substance, while the appearance in the ferns was owing to the contraction of the inner membrane. There was no doubt of the existence of cilia in the mature volvox.—Mr. Shadbolt could speak distinctly as to the presence of cilia in the volvox; although difficult to see while the creature was in motion, they could be readily observed by confining it, and still more so by compressing and rupturing the sphere, by which means, at the torn edges, they could even be counted. He was not yet prepared to coincide with the vegetable view; and reminded Dr. Carpenter that the automatic nature of the movements could not be considered as any argument in favour of a vegetable theory, as it was precisely analogous to the automatic retraction of the tentacula in the Bryozoa. His chief objection, however, was, that the volvox presented a most anomalous appearance when viewed as a perfect plant,—while the idea of its being a sporangium could scarcely be maintained when precisely similar individuals were formed by a species of reproduction. He believed no instance was known of a seed producing a seed.—Dr. Carpenter replied that certainly in the mosses an increase in the seeds was produced by germination, and this might be looked on as a somewhat similar case.

PHILOLOGICAL.—Nov. 21.—E. Guest, Esq., the Honorary Secretary, read a paper 'On a Curious Case of *Tmesis* sometimes met with in Anglo-Saxon and Early-English Syntax';—which is, that when a compound term consists of two substantives, or of a substantive and adjective, the component parts of such compound will occasionally open, and admit some qualifying word, generally an adjective. For instance, you find in Bosworth's Dictionary, as a regular compound word, *se-naca*, sea-skiff or sea-boat. Grimm in his Grammar quotes the passage:—

*Adi wearon sande . se gear naca
hladan herc-vectun :*

which, translated, is—

"There was on the sand the curved sea-boat
Laden with war-habilliments."

The compound *se-naca* has evidently opened, and let in the qualifying adjective *gearp*. It will hardly be credited that Grimm quotes this passage as his authority for making *se-gearp* an Anglo-Saxon compound: he gives no translation of his new term *se-gearp* (and no wonder); but he translates *gearp* by *patulus*, though the only meaning in which I have ever seen it used is *curvus* or *curvatus*. Kemble, like Grimm, makes *se-gearp* a compound, and translates it by "curved above the sea."—The objections to this translation are twofold. There are no Anglo-Saxon compounds which admit of an analogous construction, and the phrase "curved above the sea" is not true to nature. Again, in *Credmon*, 192, we find this passage.—

*And ðær, fœr mihlty . forstas and snæwas .
WINTER BITER WEDER . and folcen faru,
hofe on lyfte .*

"And there, mighty Lord, the frosts and the snows,
The bitter winter weather, and the welkin's course,
Praise in the lyft! (air)."

Here, to my mind, *winter-weder* is the compound substantive, and *biter* an adjective intruded between the two component parts. Grimm, however, makes *winter-biter* the compound,—but gives no translation of it. Mr. Thorpe also makes *winter-biter* the compound, and translates *winter biter weder* "by winter's bitter weather":—how he gets his

"winter's bitter weather" from the Anglo-Saxon "*winter biter weder*" it would be difficult to say—his translation and his text are clearly inconsistent. Another regular Anglo-Saxon compound is *mere-wic*, "a sea-station, a roadstead," and in Alfred, 93'1, we find "*mere smylta wic*," "a mild roadstead." Mr. Fox, it is true, translates this "*a great tranquil station*"; but this arises from his having mistaken *mere*, sea, for *mere*, great. In the Exeter MS., p. 332, we find this passage.—

*swæ uerelice . WEOROD ANES GOD.
geord middan geard . monna crafstas
reop and sceyrole .*

which Mr. Thorpe translates,

"Thus wondrously the God of Hosts
Over mid-earth, men's powers
Has created and allotted:"

making *weorod-god* a compound, as no doubt it is. But Mr. Thorpe has quietly ignored the inserted word *anes*, which has puzzled him and many others. The fact is, that the neuter Anglo-Saxon adjectives *an* and *self* were frequently used as substantives, and sometimes in the genitive case:—the phrase "*weorod anes god*" might be literally translated "the Host-God, of his oneness," that is, "of himself alone." The idiom which we are now discussing will explain a difficult passage in the Brunan-burg war-song:—

*Ethelstan cing . corla drihten.
beorna beg-gifa . and his broðer eac
eaddum ætheling . EALDOR LANGSE TIR
geslapan æt sake .*

"Æthelstan king, of earls the Lord,
Of barons the ring-giver, and his brother eke
Edmund the Etheling, of princes a long train,
Slew in battle":—

ealdor-tir being the compound substantive, and *langse* the inserted adjective. Examples of this *Tmesis* are very rare in the later periods of our literature; though even as late as the seventeenth century we have—

"Eve walking forth about the forests garters
Speights, par-ots, peacocks, *estrach scattered feathers*."
—Sylv. Du Bart.—*Handicrafts*.

Mr. Guest gave other examples:—and a discussion took place.—Mr. Cockaigne suggested the compound "newspaper-articles," and the phrase "newspaper wordy articles" as analogous.—Prof. Key considered that in compound substantives the first component had always been a genitive, as in "morden-light," "moonlight," "nachtengall," "nightingale" (music or bird of the night).

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Nov. 25.—Sir W. Cubitt, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Application of Machinery to the Manufacture of Rotating Chambered-Breech Fire-Arms, and the Peculiarities of those Arms,' by Col. S. Colt, of the United States.—The communication commenced with an historical account of such rotating chamber fire-arms as had been discovered by the author in his researches after specimens of the early efforts of armourers for the construction of repeating weapons, the necessity for which appears to have been long ago admitted. The collections in the Tower of London, the United Service Museum, the Rotunda at Woolwich, Warwick Castle, the Musée d'Artillerie, and the Hôtel Cluny, at Paris, as well as some ancient Eastern arms brought from India by Lord W. Bentinck, demonstrated the early efforts that had been made to produce arms capable of rapidly firing several times, consecutively, without the delay of loading after each discharge. Drawings of these specimens were exhibited; comprising the match-lock, the pyrites wheel-lock, the flint-lock, down to the percussion wheel-lock, as adapted by the author.—Among the match-lock guns some had as many as eight chambers, rotating by hand; and the length of the chambers, as well as the thinness of the barrel, showed the bad quality of the gunpowder at the period of their construction.

—Some of the pyrites wheel-lock guns had also as many as eight chambers, and rotated by hand. One of them, made in the seventeenth century, had the peculiarity of igniting the charge close behind the bullet, burning backwards towards the breech; an arrangement identical in principle with that of the modern Prussian "Needle gun," for which great merit has been claimed.—The flint locks induced more determined efforts; but all were abortive, as the magazines for priming and the pan covers were continually blown off on the explosion of the charge. Indeed, from the earliest

match-lock down to the present time, the premature explosion of several chambers, owing to the simultaneous ignition of the charges, from the spreading of the fire at their mouths, had been the great source of difficulty. In some of the most ancient specimens orifices were provided in the butt of the barrel for the escape of the bullets in case of explosion, whilst others had evidently been destroyed by this action. In a brass model of a pistol of the time of Charles the Second, from the United Service Museum, there was an ingenious attempt to cause the chamber to rotate by mechanical action, in some degree similar to, but more complicated than, the arms constructed by the author.—The "Coolidge" and the "Collier" guns, both flint guns of comparatively modern manufacture, exhibited the same radical defects, of liability to premature explosion.—The invention of Nock's patent breech, and the Rev. Mr. Forsyth's introduction of the detonating or percussion guns, which latter principle, with the necessary mechanical arrangements for the caps, was essential to the safe construction of repeating fire-arms, constituted a new era in those weapons; and the author recognizing the peculiar wants in a country whose inhabitants were constantly moving onwards towards new settlements, where the pioneers were required to protect themselves and families by their personal prowess, frequently against fearful inequality of numbers, from the attacks of the aboriginal Indians, whose peculiar mode of warfare could be coped with only by rapid and repeated firing, it was natural that attention should be directed to the production of self-acting repeating arms. The author, being fully cognisant of these wants, but entirely unaware of any previous attempts to produce such weapons, made a series of experiments on skeleton fire-arms, which were very successful; but subsequently he fell into many of the errors of his predecessors,—for, by covering the breech and the mouths of the chambers, simultaneous explosion of several charges constantly occurred. This induced the restoration of the arms nearly to their original skeleton form; and the result was, the production of the present perfect arm, which has been so universally adopted in America that the author's large manufactory has proved quite insufficient to supply the demand.—The means for manufacturing these arms on so large a scale, was the main point of the paper; for, unlike the system adopted in England and on the Continent, of making fire-arms almost entirely by manual labour, the several parts comprising these weapons are forged, planed, shaped, slotted, drilled, tapped, bored, rifled, and even engraved by machinery, to such an extent that 10 per cent. only of the value of the arm was for hand labour in finishing and ornamenting,—90 per cent. being executed by automaton machines, guided by women and children, whose labour was represented by 10 per cent., leaving 80 per cent. for the machinery.—The action of these machines was described; and it appeared that though, like a cotton or flax mill, the manufactory, at first sight, appeared intricate, yet that each part travelled independently through its course, until at length the finishing workmen had only to put the several parts together, almost indiscriminately, and the uniformity was so precise, that little or no fitting was required beyond removing the "burr," or rough edge left by the machines. This was a point of great importance; especially in a country of such extent as America, where the necessity for sending arms from one district to another for repair might be attended with serious consequences.—The arms now manufactured by the author, and of which numerous specimens were exhibited, were of the simplest construction. The lock consisted of only five working parts contained in a lock-frame cut out from the solid metal, into which the breech arbor was firmly inserted, and by it rigidly attached to the barrel in such a manner as to regulate, with the greatest precision, the contact between the end of the barrel and the mouths of the cylinders, so as to prevent any serious escape of lateral fire.—The rotating of the cylinder was accomplished by a self-acting lever, to which motion was given by the act of drawing back the hammer; at half-cock the cylinder was

free to rotate in one direction, for the purpose of loading and putting the caps on the nipples; the former operation being rapidly accomplished by the conversion of the ramrod into a jointed lever, attached to the barrel, by which means the bullets were rammed home so securely that no patch or wadding was required. The grooves in the barrel were of a peculiar spiral, commencing almost straight, near the breech end, and terminating at the muzzle in a curve of small radius. The bullets were of either cylindrical or conical shape; and from some diagrams of several practice targets sent from Woolwich, by Col. Chalmers, R.A., for exhibition, it appeared, that even by men unaccustomed to the use of this particular arm great precision of firing could be attained:—as with a small revolving belt pistol, at a distance of fifty yards, out of forty-eight shots twenty-five bullets took effect within a space of one foot square,—and of them, thirteen hit the bull's-eye, which was only six inches in diameter,—the whole number of shots striking the target.

Dec. 2.—Sir W. Cubitt, President, in the chair.—A discussion was renewed on the above subject; in which the Hon. R. J. Walker, Gen. McNeill, Mr. Hodge, and other visitors, as well as a large number of the members, took part. The processes of manufacture were described; and the importance of machinery in a country like America, where labour is so dear, was shown.—The aid of English Civil Engineers was claimed in the great attempt to traverse the Isthmus of South America by a navigable ship canal for which the American engineers were the pioneers with the railway now in course of execution.—The following Associates were elected:—Messrs. J. J. Bagnell, W. M. Crosland, J. B. Palmer, C. Sells, J. P. Smith, J. H. Taunton, and J. Wilkinson.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Nov. 26.—H. T. Hope, Esq. in the chair.—In accordance with announcement (*ante*, p. 1150) the first of the proposed series of Lectures on the Great Exhibition was commenced this evening by Dr. Whewell,—who took for his subject 'The General Bearing of the Exhibition on the Progress of Art and Science.' The address gave great satisfaction to a very crowded meeting; but as this and the other lectures are all to be printed for general distribution, we shall not attempt to give a report unless any special points should require recording.

Dec. 2.—Sir H. de la Beche, 'On Mining, Quarrying and Metallurgical Processes and Products.'

Dec. 3.—T. Tooke, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—This being the day for the election of officers, the new Bye-Laws were brought into operation. By these rules it is decided that in future a certain proportion of the Vice-Presidents and Council shall retire annually, not being eligible for re-election for one year. It will be observed, that the Society took the opportunity of electing to the various offices those members who had prominent parts in carrying the Exhibition into effect.—The names in italics are the new officers.—President, H.R.H. Prince Albert; Vice-Presidents, Duke of Buccleuch, Earl Curliole, Earl of Ellesmere, Earl Granville, Lord Colborne, Lord Overstone, Sir J. P. Boileau, *Right Hon. E. Strutt, M.P., Right Hon. T. M. Gibson, M.P., H. T. Hope, M.P., G. Moffatt, M.P., S. M. Peto, M.P., R. Stephenson, M.P., B. Botfield, M.P., C. Barry, I. K. Brunel, T. Creswick, W. F. Cooke, C. Dickens, C. W. Dilke, Jun., M. Faraday, O. Jones, J. M. Rendel, and W. Tooke, Esqs.; Council, J. Bell, T. Cubitt, J. Glynn, H. T. Henry, W. Harding, Capt. H. C. Owen, Dr. Lyon Playfair, J. Scott Russell, W. W. Saunders, S. Smirke, E. Solly, T. Twining, Jun.; Treasurers, P. Le Neve Foster, M.A., H. Cole, C.B.; Auditors, T. Winkworth, S. Redgrave; Secretary, G. Grove; Collector, S. T. Davenport.*

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon.** Geographical, half-past 8.—'Proposal for a Museum of Manhood,' by Geo. Catlin, Esq.—'Geographical Sketch of the Friendly Isles, with Account of the Visit of H.M. Ship *Meander*, Capt. Keppel, to Tongatabu, with numerous Illustrations, &c. by Mr. O. W. Brierly.
- Tues.** Royal Academy, 8.—Anatomical Lecture.
- Wed.** Zoological, 9.—Scientific Business.
- Thurs.** Syro-Egyptian, half-past 7.—'An Account of the Ancient Port and City of Seleucia, in Persia, its Political and Commercial Position, and Importance as the Key to the North of Syria, and High Road to India and Persia,' by Dr. W. Holt Yates.

Civil Engineers, 8.—'Account of the Works on the Birmingham Extension of the Birmingham and Oxford Junction Railway,' by Mr. C. B. Lane.

Wed. Literary Fund, 8.—'A Report of a Tour in the Ethnological, half-past 8.—'A Report of a Tour in the New Hebrides and other Islands in the Western Pacific Ocean,' by John Inglis, Missionary, communicated by the Right Hon. Earl Grey, Secretary to the Colonies.—Remarks on certain Views concerning the Peopling of the Islands of the Pacific Ocean, by the Hon. Secretary.

Society of Arts, 8.—Lectures on the Exhibition.—'On Animal Raw Products used in the Arts and Manufactures,' by Prof. Owen.

Thurs. Antiquaries, 8.—Royal Society of Literature, 4.

Fri. Philological, 8.—Astronomical, 8.

Sat. Asiatic, 2.—Medical, 8.

ON THE PRODUCTION OF INSTANTANEOUS PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES.

It will probably be in the recollection of some of your readers that in the month of June last a successful experiment was tried at the Royal Institution in which the photographic image was obtained of a printed paper fastened upon a wheel, the wheel being made to revolve as rapidly as possible during the operation.

From this experiment the conclusion is inevitable, that it is in our power to obtain the pictures of all moving objects, no matter in how rapid motion they may be, provided we have the means of sufficiently illuminating them with a sudden electric flash. But here we stand in need of the kind assistance of scientific men who may be acquainted with methods of producing electric discharges more powerful than those in ordinary use. What is required, is, vividly to light up a whole apartment with the discharge of a battery:—the photographic art will then do the rest, and depict whatever may be moving across the field of view.

I had intended to communicate much earlier the details of this experiment at the Royal Institution, but was prevented from doing so at the time,—and soon afterwards I went on the Continent in order to observe the total solar eclipse of the 28th of July. This most interesting phenomenon I had the pleasure of witnessing at the little town of Marienburg, in the north-eastern corner of Prussia. The observations will appear, I believe, in a forthcoming volume of the Transactions of the Royal Astronomical Society. Among other things, I was enabled to make a satisfactory estimate of the degree of darkness during the total obscuration; which proved to be equal to that which existed one hour after sunset the same evening, the weather being during that evening peculiarly serene, so as to allow of a just comparison.

This Continental journey having effectually interrupted my photographic labours, I have only recently been able to resume them. I shall, therefore, now proceed to describe to you exactly the mode in which the plates were prepared which we used at the Royal Institution: at the same time not doubting that much greater sensibility will be attained by the efforts of the many ingenious persons who are now cultivating the art of photography. And it is evident that an increased sensibility would be as useful as an augmentation in the intensity of the electric discharge.

The mode of preparing the plates was as follows:—

1. Take the most liquid portion of the white of an egg, rejecting the rest. Mix it with an equal quantity of water. Spread it very evenly upon a plate of glass, and dry it at the fire. A strong heat may be used without injuring the plate. The film of dried albumen ought to be uniform and nearly invisible.

2. To an aqueous solution of nitrate of silver add a considerable quantity of alcohol, so that an ounce of the mixture may contain three grains of the nitrate. I have tried various proportions, from one to six grains, but perhaps three grains answer best. More experiments are here required, since the results are much influenced by this part of the process.

3. Dip the plate into this solution, and then let it dry spontaneously. Faint prismatic colours will then be seen upon the plate. It is important to remark, that the nitrate of silver appears to form a true chemical combination with the albumen, rendering it much harder, and insoluble in liquids which dissolved it previously.

4. Wash with distilled water to remove any superfluous portions of the nitrate of silver. Then give the plate a second coating of albumen similar to the first; but in drying it avoid heating it too much, which would cause a commencement of decomposition of the silver. I have endeavoured to dispense with this operation No. 4, as it is not so easy to give a perfectly uniform coating of albumen as in No. 1. But the inferiority of the results obtained without it induces me for the present to consider it as necessary.

5. To an aqueous solution of protiodide of iron add first an equal volume of acetic acid, and then ten volumes of alcohol. Allow the mixture to repose two or three days. At the end of that time it will have changed colour, and the odour of acetic acid as well as that of alcohol will have disappeared, and the liquid will have acquired a peculiar but agreeable vinous odour. It is in this state that I prefer to employ it.

6. Into the iodide thus prepared and modified the plate is dipped for a few seconds. All these operations may be performed by moderate daylight, avoiding however the direct solar rays.

7. A solution is made of nitrate of silver, containing about 70 grains to one ounce of water. To three parts of this add two of acetic acid. Then if the prepared plate is rapidly dipped once or twice into this solution it acquires a very great degree of sensibility, and it ought then to be placed in the camera without much delay.

8. The plate is withdrawn from the camera, and in order to bring out the image it is dipped into a solution of protosulphate of iron, containing one part of the saturated solution diluted with two or three parts of water. The image appears very rapidly.

9. Having washed the plate with water it is now placed in a solution of hyposulphite of soda; which in about a minute causes the image to brighten up exceedingly, by removing a kind of veil which previously covered it.

10. The plate is then washed with distilled water, and the process is terminated. In order, however, to guard against future accidents, it is well to give the picture another coating of albumen or of varnish.

These operations may appear long in the description, but they are rapidly enough executed after a little practice.

In the process which I have now described, I trust that I have effected a harmonious combination of several previously ascertained and valuable facts,—especially of the photographic property of iodide of iron, which was discovered by Dr. Woods, of Parsonstown, in Ireland, and that of sulphate of iron, for which science is indebted to the researches of Mr. Robert Hunt. In the true adjustment of the proportions, and in the mode of operation, lies the difficulty of these investigations; since it is possible by adopting other proportions and manipulations not very greatly differing from the above, and which a careless reader might consider to be the same, not only to fail in obtaining the highly exalted sensibility which is desirable in this process, but actually to obtain scarcely any photographic result at all.

To return, however, from this digression.—The pictures obtained by the above-described process are negative by transmitted light and positive by reflected light. When I first remarked this, I thought it would be desirable to give these pictures a distinctive name, and I proposed that of *Amphitype*, as expressive of their double nature,—at once positive and negative. Since the time when I first observed them, the Collodion process has become known, which produces pictures having almost the same peculiarity. In a scientific classification of photographic methods, these ought therefore to be ranked together as species of the same genus. These Amphitype pictures differ from the nearly related Collodion ones in an important circumstance, viz., the great hardness of the film and the firm fixation of the image, which is such that in the last washing, No. 10, the image may be rubbed strongly with cotton and water without any injury to it; but, on the contrary, with much improvement, as this removes any particles of dust or other impurity, and gives the whole picture a fresh

degree of vivacity and lustre. A daguerreotype picture would be destroyed by such rough usage before it was completely fixed and finished.

In examining one of the Amphitype pictures, the first thing that strikes the observer is, the much greater visibility of the positive image than of the negative one; which is at least in the proportion of ten to one,—since it is not rare to obtain plates which are almost invisible by transmitted light, and which yet present a brilliant picture full of details when seen by reflected light.

The object of giving to the plates a second coating of albumen, as prescribed in No. 4, is chiefly in order to obtain this well-developed positive image; for it is a most extraordinary fact, that a small change in the relative proportions of the chemical substances employed enables us at pleasure to cause the final image to be either entirely negative or almost entirely positive. In performing the experiment of the rotating wheel the latter process must be adopted; since the transmitted or negative image is not strong enough to be visible unless the electric flash producing it be an exceedingly bright one.

I now proceed to mention a peculiarity of these images which appears to me to justify still further the name of Amphitype, or, as it may be rendered in other words, "ambiguous image." Until lately I had imagined that the division of photographic images into *positive* and *negative* was a complete and rigorous one, and that all images must be of either the one or the other kind. But a third kind of image of a new and unexpected nature is observed upon the Amphitype plates. In order to render this intelligible, I will first recall the general fact that the image seen by transmitted light is negative and that by reflected light positive. Yet, nevertheless, if we vary the inclination of the plate, holding it in various lights, we shall not fail speedily to discover a position in which the image is positive although seen by transmitted light. This is already a fact greatly requiring explanation. But the most singular part of the matter is, that in this new image (which I call the *transmitted positive*), the brightest objects (viz. those that really are brightest, and which appear so in the *reflected positive*) are entirely wanting. In the places where these ought to have been seen, the picture appears pierced with holes, through which are seen the objects which are behind. Now, if this singularity occurred in all the positions in which the plate gives a positive image, I should be satisfied with the explanation that the too great brightness of the objects had destroyed the photographic effect which they had themselves at first produced. But since this effect takes place in the *transmitted positive* but not in the *reflected positive*, I am at a loss to suggest the reason of it,—and can only say that this part of optical science, dependent upon the molecular constitution of bodies, is in great need of a most careful experimental investigation.

The delicate experiment of the revolving wheel requires for its success that the iodide of iron employed should be in a peculiar or definite chemical state. This substance presents variations and anomalies in its action which greatly influence the result. Those photographers, therefore, who may repeat the experiment will do well to fix their principal attention upon this point. It is also requisite in winter to warm the plates a little before placing them in the camera. In pursuing this investigation, I have been much struck with the wide field of research in experimental optics which it throws open. By treating plates of albumenized glass with different chemical solutions, the most beautiful Newtonian colours, or "colours of thin plates," may be produced. And it often happens that the landscapes and pictures obtained by the camera present lively though irregular colours. These not being in conformity with nature are at present useless; with this exception, nevertheless, that in many pictures I have found the colour of the sky to come out of a very natural azure blue. I hope soon to have the leisure requisite for pursuing this very interesting branch of inquiry, and in the mean time I venture to recommend it to the notice of your scientific readers.—I am, &c.

H. F. TALBOT.

Nov. 27.

FINE ARTS

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The Manchester papers inform us that a portrait of Mr. George Wilson—who acted with such eminent ability as permanent chairman of the Anti-Corn-Law League from its formation in March 1839 to its final triumph and dissolution in July 1846—the portrait being a testimonial to that circumstance provided by subscription amongst the gentlemen of Manchester—has just been completed by Mr. Patten, the Associate of our London Royal Academy. At a meeting held last week to determine the destination of this work of art—which is said to be a fine one—it was resolved that the picture should be presented to the Mayor and Corporation of Manchester, with a request that it be placed in the large room of the Town Hall.

Professor Zahn, who has been engaged during a period of more than twenty years in examining the ruins of Pompeii and Herculaneum, has exhibited at Berlin a collection of casts unique in their kind. These are 8,000 in number; and comprise all the remarkable sculptures of the above places, besides those found at Stabie, and those of the vast collection of the Museo Borbonico and other museums of the Two Sicilies. The casts from the Museo Borbonico are the first ever made—the King of Naples having accorded the privilege of taking these copies to M. Zahn alone in royal recompense for the Professor's great work on Pompeii and Herculaneum.

The *Leader* says, that "a discovery of a very interesting nature has just taken place in one of the cells of the Castle of St. Angelo, on the wall of which, towards the corner, a rough and nearly effaced indication of Christ on the Cross was brought to light a few days ago. This drawing, or painting is thought to be that which Benvenuto Cellini, in his autobiography, mentions having executed with charcoal and brickdust on the wall of his prison, when confined, by order of Pope Paul III., in the Castle of St. Angelo, in the year 1539.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MR. H. J. LINCOLN will deliver a COURSE OF LECTURES, at the Philosophical Institution, Edinburgh, on December 3, 12, 16, and 19. Subjects.—The Genius and Works of Haydn, Mozart, Spöhr, and Mendelssohn.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.

LAST THREE NIGHTS OF M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS.

M. JULLIEN'S BENEFIT.

M. JULLIEN has the honour to announce that his BENEFIT will take place on MONDAY NEXT, December 8th (it being positively the Last Night but Two of his Concerts). The Programme will embrace all the more difficult novelties of the day, including the talents of Signor BOTTESINI and Signor SIVORI. Miss CICELY NOTT will make her Seventh Appearance.—Commence at Eight.

GRAND BAL MASQUÉ.

M. JULLIEN'S Annual Grand Bal Masqué will take place on FRIDAY NEXT, December 12th.

N.B. All Persons having Claims on the Theatre, on account of the Concerts, are requested to deliver their Accounts immediately, and to apply on MONDAY, December 15th, at Two o'clock, for payment.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

M. JULLIEN has the honour to announce that his CONCERTS will terminate on WEDNESDAY NEXT, December 10th, and that his

ANNUAL GRAND BAL MASQUÉ

will take place on FRIDAY NEXT, December 12th, 1851, (and terminate the Season), and which, in consequence of the Theatre being let for Dramatic Performances, will most positively be the ONLY BALL this Season.

The distinguished and increasing patronage which has been bestowed by the Nobility and Gentry, on M. JULLIEN'S BALS MASQUÉS, since their first introduction in this country, may be accepted as a sure evidence of the great popularity of such entertainments, when properly conducted and produced on the Scale of Grandeur and Magnificence which has, on each occasion, characterized them. On the present occasion, the SALLE DE DANSE will exhibit a new and tasteful Decoration, the Audience portion of the Theatre, as well as the Stage, being entirely wreathed with Artificial Flowers. A superb *couverture* will, as usual, shed lustre on the scene, and be characterized by the splendid effects of the CRYSTAL CURTAIN: in short, every possible exertion has been made to secure the approbation, and to insure the amusement of M. JULLIEN'S Patrons, and he feels the greatest confidence in being enabled to present them with an Evening's Entertainment, which, as a scene of variety and dazzling brilliancy, will be pronounced unrivalled.

The ORCHESTRA will, as heretofore, be complete, and consist of One Hundred and Twelve Musicians, being the present Concert Orchestra, with numerous additions. Principal Cornet & Flauto, Herr Koenig. Conductor, M. JULLIEN. The new and fashionable Music of the present Season will be played, and include several New Polkas, Waltzes, Mazurkas, and Quadrilles, composed expressly for Her Majesty's State Balls at Buckingham Palace, the Nobility's Balls, Almacks, &c. by M. JULLIEN.

Tickets for the Ball, 10s. 6d. The prices of admission for Spectators (for whom the audience portion of the Theatre will, as before, be set apart) will be as on former occasions, viz.—Dress Circle, 5s.; Boxes, 3s.; Lower Gallery, 2s.; Upper Gallery, 1s. Private Boxes, from 3s. 6s. upwards. Persons taking Private Boxes will have the privilege of passing to and from the Ball Room, without extra charge.

Mr. L. NATHAN, Jun. of 18, Castle-street, Leicester-square, is

appointed Costumier to the Ball. Persons in the Costume of Clowns, Harlequins, or Pantalons, will not be admitted. The Doors will be opened at Half-past Nine, the Dancing commence at Ten, and the Supper be served at One o'clock. Tickets for the Ball, Places and Private Boxes to be had at the Box-office of the Theatre, and at the principal Music-sellers and Libraries.

ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.—This ill-starred body of musical professors—although gathered with great pains and deliberation for the purpose of providing Londoners with a worshipful instrumental concert during the winter months—has melted into empty air: its members having proved themselves to be only professors, as distinguished from performers of their promises and fulfillers of obligations voluntarily contracted.—By the constitution of the defunct society all the members of the orchestra were bound to contribute their services to its performances, sharing the receipts in proportion to their several terms of professional remuneration:—a clause being introduced into the laws which, in the event of the absence of any one, enjoined him to forward due notice at the same time nominating a competent deputy. Such a clause, it is needless to point out, was introduced in order to provide for the rare emergencies of sickness and like grave casualties; having no reference to the normal state of the band.—The laws and conditions of the *Orchestral Society* having been largely acceded to and signed by most of the leading instrumentalists in London, the Council some months ago published a list of the orchestra, with a view of inviting subscriptions,—at the same time fixing the dates of the concerts,—and more recently, as our own advertising columns have shown, they commenced operations by arranging a programme for the first concert, and communicating with the members selected to take part in the *solo* performances of the evening. Among other pieces advertised to be performed on that occasion, was a Septet for wind instruments. Some days after this had been promised to the public by repeated advertisements, and after the parts had been forwarded to the members necessary to its execution, the Council received notice from the first clarinet and the first bassoon that it was not their intention to appear on the first night,—it being well known by advertisement that they had taken engagements elsewhere for that evening. There were other similar desertions from the first rehearsal;—on which occasion the Council decided that being unable to keep faith with the public, by presenting not merely the *solo* performers but also the orchestra advertised,—the concert should be postponed till the case should be dealt with and the principle on which the society had been founded should once for all be established or repudiated. The *Orchestral* members were accordingly convoked. On their meeting, it appeared that a majority of forty-seven treated the idea of fulfilling their engagements at the *Orchestral Concerts*, supposing other more immediately profitable engagements were offered to them, as a dream and a hardship. Under such circumstances, the Council of the *Orchestral Society* had but one honourable course to pursue. This was, to decline going before the public under conditions so preposterous and humiliating, and to dissolve the society:—which step has been accordingly taken.

On events like the above, comment is almost superfluous. Nobody need sit in judgment on those who prefer immediate gain to the advancement of their art—since such preference of itself classifies those that exhibit it. But that a body of musicians after having voluntarily taken upon themselves certain obligations, should at the very commencement of a new enterprise voluntarily violate them, using for pretext a law intended to strengthen, not to weaken the executive powers of the orchestra, and deliberately break faith with the public attracted by their names, speaks unfavourably for the moral tone of the profession. Such an instance is calculated to arm its adversaries with their sharpest weapons of reproach and mistrust. As lovers of the art, we record the premature—but inevitable—dissolution of the *Orchestral Society* with no ordinary concern.

MISS DOLBY'S SOIRÉES.—At Miss Dolby's second *Soirée*, she sang in her best manner Mozart's 'Mentre ti lascio,' Mr. H. Smart's too long-drawn

'Estelle,' and a song by Mr. H. Leslie. She was assisted in the vocal music by Miss Birch and her sister, and by Mr. Swift, now one of our most promising English tenors,—who sang M. Gounod's 'Venise,' referred to by us (*ante*, p. 1212), to the great delight of the audience.—The instrumental portion of this chamber-concert was strong; since, besides a Quartett of stringed instruments well led by Mr. Blagrove, Herr Molique appeared and Miss Kate Loder. The young lady is worth a remonstrance. She reads her music in the expressive and free style of a sound musician; but her execution is sometimes so careless as to betray a want of practice,—and this, whatever be its cause, means nothing less than want of due respect for her art and for her public.

PRINCESS'S.—The comedy, once thought interesting and even romantic, of 'Town and Country' has been revived for the purpose, we believe, of introducing a Miss Frankland, in the character of *Rosalie Somers*, to a London public. In a part which requires so little power, it is impossible to judge of the degree of force possessed by the candidate;—but the young lady evidently possesses qualifications for the stage,—a pleasing person, and good taste in the delivery of her text, accompanied by action easy and elegant. In a large class of parts, therefore, hovering between tragedy and comedy, Miss Frankland will doubtless be found efficient:—whether she will be equal to those of a higher range, we want further experience to enable us to determine. Mr. Charles Kean played *Reuben Glenroy* naturally; and in its more pathetic points touched the feelings with skill and effect.—To this notice we should add, that this gentleman is now sole lessee of the theatre,—Mr. Keeley having retired from the management.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—The death of Mr. Sapiro is among the events of the week.—So long, however, is it since that accomplished and popular singer retired from public life, that his name will sound to many like the name of a stranger. For a while, Mr. Sapiro as a first-class tenor singer of theatrical and concert music divided the honours with Mr. Braham. His voice was very fine,—his method was good,—and his expression, so far as we can recollect it, was refined, though generally chargeable with a touch of affectation. When we recall the variety of styles commanded by Mr. Sapiro—from Sir H. R. Bishop's 'Orynthia, my beloved' to the great airs of 'The Messiah,' including also the florid Italian music of Rossini,—it is impossible to avoid by comparison regretting the limited range of our best contemporary tenor singers, and recalling those better times when expression was not thought to preclude execution, or *vice versa*,—when a good declamatory pronunciation of Italian was felt to help, rather than to hinder, a clear and refined delivery of the text of the Bible, or of Shakespeare and Milton.—Mr. Sapiro's voice gave way at an unusually early period; and it is fifteen years, or more, since he presented himself in public. It is stated that he has died in very distressed circumstances.

"The first of a series of concerts will be given at Exeter Hall," says the *Musical Times*, "on Thursday evening, December the 11th. The chief characteristic will be, the illustration of the National music of England, in songs, madrigals, and glees, by eminent solo singers and an efficient chorus. The National music of Germany will also be illustrated by a German choir. Arrangements are making to combine instruction with amusement for the audience by providing all with the printed music of the concerted pieces," &c.—The principal singers, since announced, are, Miss L. Pyne and Miss Dolby, Messrs. Swift, Smith and Whitehouse;—M. Szekety is the pianist engaged, and I. Severn is to be the conductor.

It is with pleasure that we announce Mr. Ella's intention of giving six "Musical Winter Evenings" at Willis's Rooms,—to commence on Thursday the 15th of January, to be held once a fortnight, and to be devoted, we suppose, to the performance of chamber music.

Following the example of the Messrs. Broadwood,—Messrs. Collard, we observe, have been protesting against the award of the Great Exhibition medals, "*in re* Pianoforte."—The Messrs. Broadwood have presented their magnificent grand piano which stood in the nave of the Crystal Palace to the Royal Society of Musicians.

Among other untried opera composers in the field, we hear of no less redoubtable a personage than M. Jullien; who is said to have completed a work on a grand scale, which may possibly be produced at one of our musical theatres.—An opera by a young English musician, reputed to be of more than ordinary promise, Mr. Bache, may presently be given at the Haymarket Theatre.—Thirdly, rumour announces that an opera by Mr. Severn will be shortly produced at the same establishment.

M. Jullien has given his Mendelssohn night, as usual, to the promenade. His songstress for the week has been Miss Cicely Nott;—a young lady new to the majority of concert-goers.

Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves have been singing at Birmingham in English opera, with success. The journals of that town are already speculating on the chances of some new attraction sufficiently important to maintain the high character of their Musical Festival, which comes round again in the early autumn of next year. Such a desideratum is more eagerly longed for than easily obtained; and for any new work it would be now too late to give a commission, supposing that any new master were forthcoming.

A Correspondent writes to us as follows.—"The French Minister of Public Instruction has caused to be deposited in the National Library of Paris an exact fac-simile of the celebrated 'Antiphonaire Musicale' of Montpellier,—a manuscript the date of which some authorities place even so far back as the tenth century. It has been made on his order by M. Theodore Nisard—and is considered as unique in the whole range of mediæval musical archæology. Though posterior to the times of Charlemagne, the manuscript resolves most questions on the origin of the Gregorian Chant; a subject with the examination of which M. Nisard has been occupied for a number of years. He has prefaced the manuscript by a *résumé* on the origin, discovery, writing, and musical notation of the Antiphonaire, and by a table of its contents. The first treatise is entitled 'Ultimum de Musica Breviarium'; being the celebrated didactic work which Reginald, Abbot of Prüm, dedicated to Rathbode, Archbishop of Mainz, in the last years of the ninth century. In the time of Louis the Fourteenth the original autograph was in existence:—for which that monarch offered a considerable sum. Copies have since been found in Germany and in Belgium,—and the Montpellier manuscript is the fourth. Another circumstance adds to the importance of this treatise:—viz., its containing an interlinear alphabetic notation;—which makes this document a real 'stone of Rosetta' in relation to philology. It contains, moreover, a passage proving the use of the chromatic scale in the ninth century in the plain chant. The whole manuscript of M. Nisard forms a large folio of 500 pages,—of which the transcript of the Antiphonaire comprises 331,—the rest being notes and observations of the learned musical archæologist."

The stir of the Parisian musical season is beginning. M. Félicien David's opera 'La Perle de Brésil,' just produced at the third Opera House, was on its production received with rapture from the first to the last note. Nevertheless, so far as we can gather the truth from the several critiques of the journals, the work seems more closely to resemble an Ode-Symphony than an opera:—as such, being hardly likely to keep the stage. The leaning of M. David's critics in one direction is so unanimous as to confirm our often-expressed regret that the picturesque writer of 'The Desert' has never been commissioned to write a *ballet* with choruses for the *Grand Opéra*.—M. Philippe, a new tenor of promise, appeared in 'La Perle de Brésil.'—At the first concert of the *Société de Sainte Cécile* a Symphony by Schubert was performed. It speaks ill for our Philharmonic

Directors and our public that the moderate amount of enterprise implied in their once executing and hearing an unknown composition by a renowned German musician seems to be beyond their powers and patience.—Mlle. Gräver, a young pianiste from Holland, is favourably spoken of by the *Gazette Musicale*:—so is a pianoforte trio by M. Lee.

A new Italian *dansuse*, Mlle. Priora, has just made her appearance in a new *ballet*, 'Vert-Vert,' at the *Grand Opéra* of Paris. Her style is said to resemble that of her countrywomen, Mesdames Rosati, Ferraris, and Fucco in its piquant brilliancy and almost metallic firmness.

A private letter from Paris announces the success at the *Théâtre Gymnase* of 'Le Mariage de Victorine,'—a new drama by Madame Dudevant, in continuation of 'Le Philosophe sans savoir,' by Sedaine.

Mr. Anderson has, we understand, been engaged by Mr. Bunn. Other engagements are in progress,—and certain arrangements are proposed regarding the intended performances;—but these are yet in a state of fluctuation, and it would be premature to announce anything positive in the shape of a managerial programme.

MISCELLANEA

Folk-Lore.—A Correspondent, who expresses the interest which he felt in the large contributions for a time made by this paper towards a collection of those popular traditions and beliefs to which we first gave the name of "Folk-Lore," has sent a few samples of popular superstitions which he wishes us to insert. We agree with him that while "some are merely pretty fancies, and others hardly that,—some have a deeper meaning for those who can read them aright." We had, however, done all that we intended to do when we had sufficiently called attention to those curious fragments of a people's manners and modes of thinking;—and we would suggest to such of our correspondents as may have material of the kind to communicate, that our curious and valuable contemporary *Notes and Queries* is a special organ expressly fitted for its reception.—Some of our present Correspondent's contributions have already appeared in our columns; but we give the following as a curious example of the tendency at all times of even the superstitious to effect a compromise between their fears and their material interests.—"A clergyman, desirous of setting up a stock of bees, applied to one of his parishioners to sell him one; but was met with a refusal on the ground that the bees did not approve of being sold, and he should lose the remainder if he were guilty of any such transaction. The honest man, however, had no objection to making a present of a stock:—hinting that a half-sovereign might follow at another time without inconvenience."—The superstitious belief of the gardener that the blossoming of an apple-tree in autumn is predictive of a death in the family which owns the tree (referred to by the same Correspondent), has a wild poetry such as characterizes many of these half-forgotten utterances of the popular heart.

Snow Phenomena.—Exeter.—It may interest some of your readers to see the following illustration of the remarkable fall of snow mentioned by Mr. Birt in the *Athenæum* of November the 22nd. It occurs in a pamphlet on Meteorology by Prof. Dove, of Berlin,—in relation to the formation of clouds of snow over plains which are situated at a distance from the cooling summits of mountains. He says, that an amateur once gathered together a large assembly in the concert hall of a northern residence. It was one of those icy, star-bright nights which are so aptly called "iron nights" in Sweden. In the room, however, there was a fearful crowd; and the heat was so great that several ladies fainted in consequence. An officer who was present sought to end this distressing state of things by attempting to open a window,—but this was impossible, so hard was it frozen to the sill. Like a second Alexander, he cut the Gordian knot by breaking a pane of glass:—and now, what happened?—It snowed in the room!—It is needless to add any comment on this,—as the phenomenon explains itself.

I am, &c.

W. GLADSTONE

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—R. F.—S. S.—W. H. II.—R. P. T. S.—A Subscriber, Y. O.—received.
MAJOR W. S.—We have received this Correspondent's second letter,—and will do as he wishes.

A LAWYER is thanked. We will give him some further answer on a future occasion.
A. A. W.—This Correspondent also has our thanks. We shall make some use of his hints on a fitting opportunity.

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life was a glittering tissue, in which good and evil were strangely
mingled; and as the evidences of friend and foe were woven together,
without reference to the prejudices of either, or any other object
than to show her as she was, the lights and shades must some-
times appear in strong and even painful opposition to each other;
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